



Maui Huliau Foundation

2023 Annual Report

Promoting environmental
literacy and leadership
among Maui youth



www.mauihuliaufoundation.org @mauihuliau



MESSAGE FROM OUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Our staff and board from top left: Kapono Nae'ole, Macie Tawata, Stacey Casco, Eleanor Dudley, Kelly Lau, Kapua Chang, Hannah Shipman, Lily Solano, Malia Cahill, and Nicolette van der Lee. Not pictured: Kūhea Asiu

As we look back on 2023, it is impossible not to see the immense devastation brought by the August fires as defining this year. However, it also proved just how resilient our Maui community is. For the month following the fires, we supported our staff in their volunteer efforts serving immediate community needs in lieu of normal programs, and pivoted our annual benefit dinner to be a meal service event, with the help of youth volunteers.

In the months since, we have leveraged our strong community partnerships and growing teacher and student networks to identify ways to best serve our community in long-term recovery efforts. In addition to continuing to engage youth in environmental issues and 'āina-based education via our youth programs, we have also begun working with Lāhaināluna High School and west side partners to support teachers and youth as they return to campus and begin to rebuild their community. As we enter 2024, new opportunities to engage youth in envisioning a positive future for Maui are already presenting themselves and we enter this new year with a great sense of hope and purpose.



Students and staff at our Meals for Maui meal delivery event in August



Two of our staff, Lily and Macie, helping with Nā Kia'i o Maui's relief efforts

2023 HIGHLIGHTS

Despite the unprecedented challenges of this year, strong community support and the passion and determination of our small staff led to some great successes in 2023 and exciting possibilities for the year ahead.

- Ongoing professional development programs at four public schools
- Serving 1,430 students in our climate literacy program & offering field trips
- Support for Lāhaināluna staff and students via three of our programs
- Growing our Huliau Alumni Council

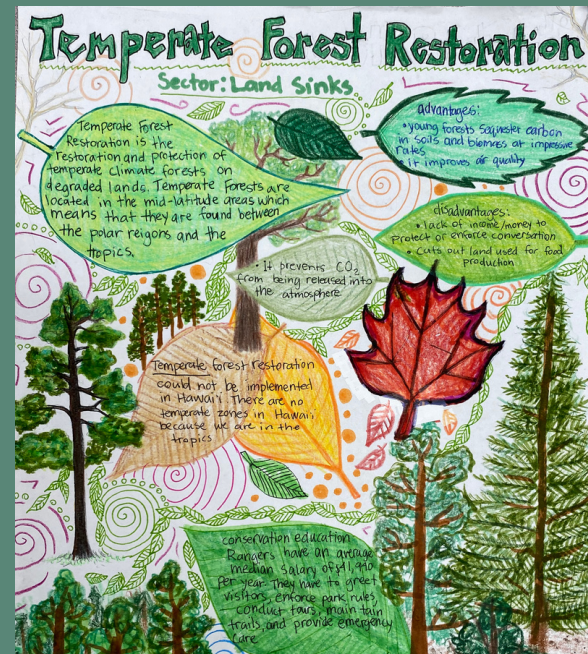
CLIMATE LITERACY PROJECT



1,430 students served in the 2022-23 school year!

In the 2022-23 school year, our climate literacy project served approximately 1,430 public school students in grades 7-12. Our staff directly taught 887 of these students via in-class assistance to ten teachers from five schools. The other 669 students were reached via our PDE3 teacher course where twelve teachers from six different schools implemented problem-based learning lesson plans. During these programs, 560 students completed an initial investigation of climate change solutions through our Project Drawdown concept map activity and 141 students completed more in-depth student-led projects.

In fall 2023, the fires caused a few cancellations and postponements, including lesson plan implementation for our PDE3 course. Despite this, we still directly served 158 students, including 28 immersion students from Lāhaināluna, and a third field trip for Kekaulike students.



A student's climate change solution concept map

Field Trips

One big success of 2023 for our climate literacy program was the launch of field trips as part of our multi-week school programs, which had been on hold since the pandemic. Our staff worked with Maui Ocean Center, Maui Ocean Center Marine Institute, Maui Nui Marine Resource Council and UH Sea Grant to lead three field trips for 110 students from King Kekaulike High School, which focused on building resilience to climate-related threats such as coral bleaching and sea level rise.



Program Survey Results

90%

feel climate change will impact their lives

83%

feel more aware of climate change solutions and think governments, businesses, and individuals needed to take immediate action

ENVIRONMENTAL FILMMAKING PROGRAM



Students film in Īao Valley during our spring break program

As our filmmaking program turns 15 years old, we continue to host student film teams in our original semester-long program, a condensed school break format, and in partnership with teachers and other youth organizations.

In spring 2023, we hosted a condensed spring break program in which eleven students created two films in just four days. Their films focused on the history and importance of Īao Valley and on various threats to Maui's coastal environments.

Our fall semester-long program is in the final stages of post-production. The three films include a documentary focused on how to make tourism more sustainable and beneficial to Maui residents, a documentary about Maui's feral cat problem, and an animated film sharing stories of how some of Maui's invasive species were mistakenly introduced.

In the fall, we also began working with teachers at Lāhaināluna, St Anthony, and Maui Economic Opportunity's after school program on youth film projects which will be completed in 2024.



Fall filmmaking students interview Ekolu Lindsey for thier film on tourism



A student films 'ua'u burrows for their film about the impacts of feral cats



A student films in Olowalu during our 2023 spring break program.

ALUMNI COUNCIL

Our Huliau Alumni Council was founded in 2020 by former students. They meet quarterly on zoom to share updates on their lives, advise our staff on programs, raise funds, and plan events and educational experiences for alumni and students.



Leadership students and alumni at Skyline's Haleakalā Zipline

In 2023, our alumni council gained some new members as students graduated from our leadership and filmmaking programs. The alumni hosted their second annual wreath-making fundraiser in December, inviting community members to create locally sourced wreaths, while raising funds for our youth programs. The day before, they hosted a service project on Maui Tea Farm for our Leadership Council, where they also harvested additional wreath-making supplies, and ended the day with a tour at Skyline Hawai'i's Haleakalā Zipline. In November, the Alumni Council hosted an alumni pau hana on O'ahu, where an increasing number of alumni now reside. This event allowed new alumni who recently moved there for school or work to meet and network with older alumni. The council also hosted its second annual scholarship competition awarding \$2,500 each to two Maui seniors.



Alumni Council wreath-making fundraiser in December

Alumni Spotlight: Hi'ilei Casco



Hi'ilei was in our first filmmaking class in 2010, and was part of our first leadership council in 2012. She is a co-founder of our Alumni Council and our alumni-led EcoAdventure summer program. After graduating from Cornell, Hi'ilei got her Master's of Environmental Management at UH Mānoa and then studied law at the William S. Richardson School of Law. In 2023, she completed her Juris Doctor and now works as a Law Clerk at the Hawai'i Supreme Court!

LEADERSHIP COUNCIL

Our 2023-24 Huliau Leadership Council consists of 14 students from 6 Maui high schools who meet twice a month to plan environmental service and leadership projects. The purpose of the program is to increase environmental literacy and to engage students directly in local environmental efforts in the community.

This school year, all students who were not seniors last year reenrolled in the program, a testament to the value of this program for them. Upon graduating, three of the seniors joined our Alumni Council to stay involved as they move on to college and careers.



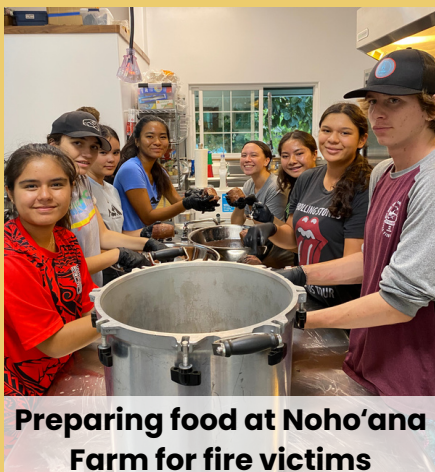
Leadership student service project in Hilo

Hawai'i Island Year-End Trip



Staff and students in Hilo

To end the 2022-23 school year, our leadership council and staff visited the Big Island to volunteer with 'āina-based partners, learn about the island's history, explore new places, and celebrate the work we did together that year. It was a wonderful educational and bonding experience, which we now hope to make an annual event. In 2024, we are planning to visit O'ahu and be hosted by our many alumni there.



Preparing food at Noho'ana Farm for fire victims

So far this school year, students have participated in a beach cleanup, a farm service project, meal prep for fire victims, and storm drain stenciling. They have also chosen environmental issues to get involved with as part of their independent projects.



County storm drain stenciling

SUMMER PROGRAMS



Sharkastics beach cleanup at Ka'ehu

Huliau EcoAdventure

Our alumni-led four day program again took students in grades 7-9 on an 'āina-based learning adventure. Students learned traditional crafts at Maui Nui Botanical Gardens, worked in the lo'i at Noho'ana Farm, cleaned the beach at Ka'ehu, and learned about native plant restoration with Kīpuka Olowalu.



Hula bracelet making

Marine Science Summer Camp

This summer we hosted a new three day program for high school students focused on marine careers. Students learned from experts about land-based protection efforts for coral, aquaponics, native seabird recovery, and climate change impacts on marine environments. The program ended with an intro to scuba experience with Extended Horizons. Other partners included CORAL, Digital Bus, UH Maui College, and Maui Nui Seabird Recovery Project.



Students look at saltwater samples under the microscope



Intro to Scuba activity with Extended Horizons

Waihe'e Huaka'i

For the second year, we partnered with Hawai'i Land Trust to host an overnight program exploring the Waihe'e ahupua'a. Students hiked a portion of Waihe'e Ridge Trail to learn about the role of native species in watershed health. Then at the Waihe'e Coastal Dunes and Wetlands Refuge students camped out under the stars, learned about the history of Kapoho village, and helped with restoration projects.



Wall restoration at Waihe'e refuge



Hiking Waihe'e Ridge

KŪKULU PILINA

Our Kūkulu Pilina professional development programs focus on rooting learning in Hawai‘i and strengthening HĀ or BREATH (sense of Belonging, Responsibility, Excellence, Aloha, Total well-being and Hawai‘i) in public schools. In 2023, we hosted our PDE3 teacher course for the third year and began the second year of our on campus professional development series during the school year. Three of the four schools that we worked with last year began working to implement the HĀ strengthening practices that they identified last year.



Teachers participate in a “kilo” observation activity at Ka’ehu



Teachers ku'i kalo at Noho'ana Farm

Summer PDE3

This year our for-credit teacher course focusing on the power of ‘āina-based education and community partnership to strengthen HĀ, hosted summer sessions with community partners, Kīpuka Olowalu and Noho’ana Farm. While the course deadline was postponed until spring due to the fires, we are currently supporting teachers in implementing their lesson plans. For some, the HĀ framework’s focus on culturally-based social emotional learning seems especially relevant after the devastation caused by the fires.

This year, our school-wide PD sessions focused on implementing the practices discussed last year. Two schools also participated in ‘āina-based learning days for staff. King Kekaulike High School visited Ka’ehu for their ‘āina-based session and have made great progress planting native trees on campus, learning a new school-wide oli (chant), and planning a career day featuring alumni. Lokelani Intermediate staff visited Waiohuli Kai for a second year to learn about the coastal environment near their school, and its cultural significance and history. They are working on projects relating to campus murals, school gardens, increased use of Hawaiian vocabulary, and field trips for all students. Kalama Intermediate is working on cultural activities during advisory, peer mediation, career days, and field trips. We are thrilled that Lāhaināluna recently joined the program and is planning sessions with us in 2024.



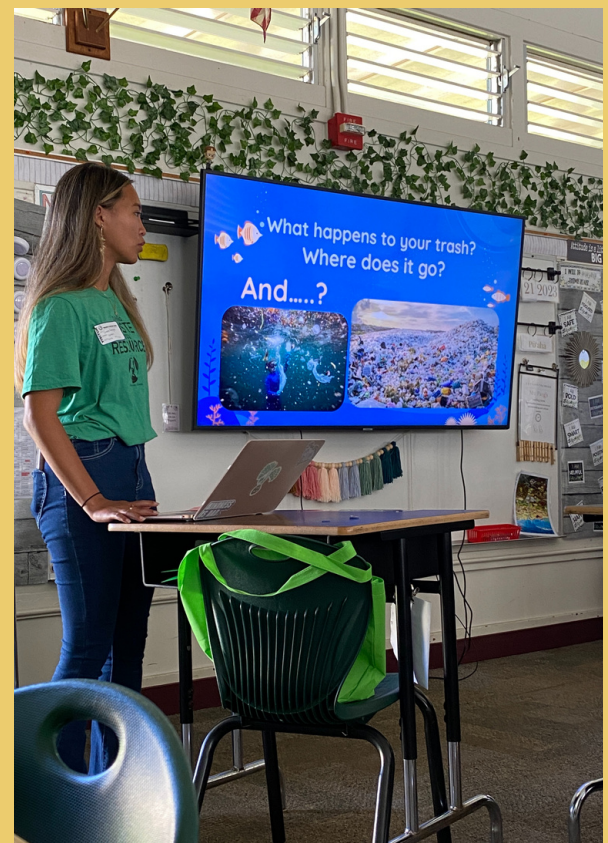
Teachers plant native trees at Kekaulike High School



Lokelani Intermediate teachers with community partners at Waiohuli Kai

HULIAU GREEN EVENTS & ZERO WASTE SCHOOLS

In the 2022-23 school year, we launched our first zero waste internships for high school students with three students participating. Students spent roughly half of the internship learning about zero waste principals and taking part in community outreach efforts via Huliau Green Events, social media, and other venues. For the other half of their internships, students worked on a zero waste project of their choice. Two students chose to work on projects related to school cafeteria waste, including making films to educate students about the importance of diverting food waste via pig farmers or composting. The third student created educational presentations for elementary students on plastic pollution and composting, and then worked with Grow Some Good to present them to students.



A Zero Waste Intern presents to students about plastic pollution

Huliau Green Events



Volunteers at a waste station

Our Huliau Green Events program worked with eight community events in 2023 to divert nearly 3,000lbs of waste from the landfill via reuse, composting, and recycling. We also trained 68 volunteers to help with education at waste stations. In addition, we worked with four other events to provide reusable food ware, utensils, and water refill stations.



of waste diverted



over 15,000 people served

“

We love and appreciate our partnership with Maui Huliau Foundation. Delivery, setup, training, and disposal were all handled very well. Mahalo for making it so easy to go zero waste.

Stephanie Garrett, Paddle Imua coordinator

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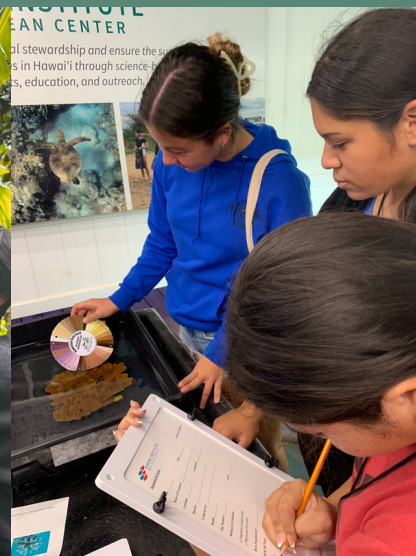
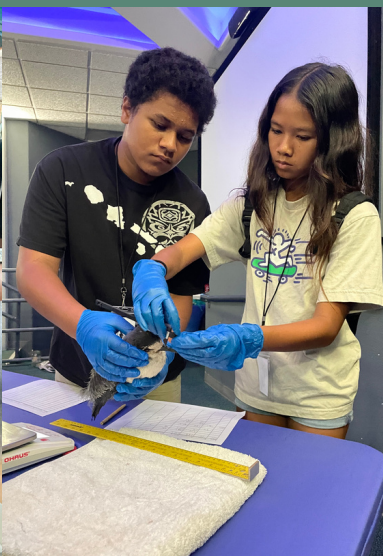
CAREERS IN CONSERVATION

We hosted our third round of Career Exploration Day events in Fall 2023 as part of our Careers in Conservation initiative. At these events, Maui youth learned hands-on career skills from professionals working to protect Maui's natural resources and ecosystems from mauka to makai. The Makai Careers Exploration Day in Ma'alaea focused on careers in marine science and



Fall 2023 Makai Career Exploration Day

the Mauka Careers Exploration Day in Īao Valley focused on careers in native forest and watershed protection. Both events featured activity stations run by local professionals from 12 different conservation groups, as well as information on volunteer, internship, and employment opportunities. The events are open to students in 8th grade through college, and we now plan to offer them every fall for up to 48 students per session.



Maui Nui Seabird Recovery & Sharkastics present to students at Makai Career Day

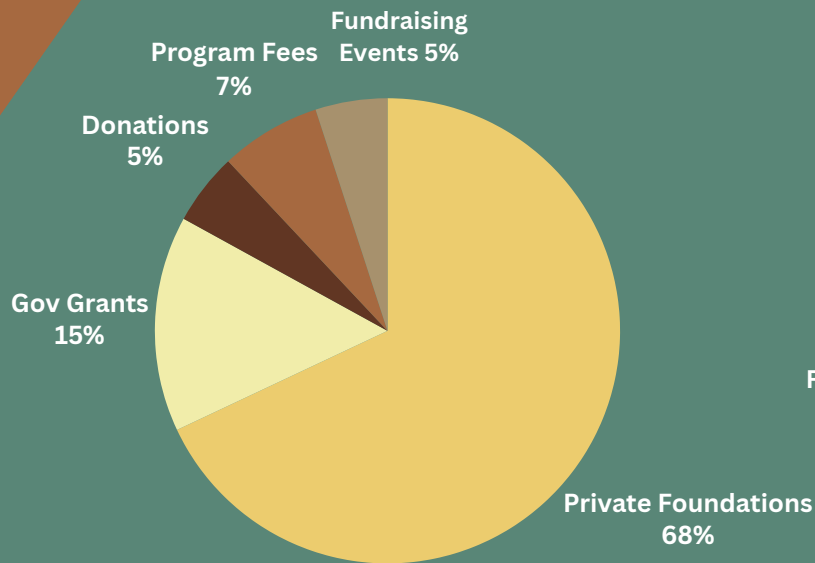
The overall mission of our Careers in Conservation initiative is to help more local students enter conservation jobs, which are often filled by new hires from outside of Hawai'i. To further this objective in 2024, we will also be helping to organize similar career events on public school campuses.

“ I loved all of the rotations, and how each representative had lots of information and an interactive activity. This was a very cool experience! ”

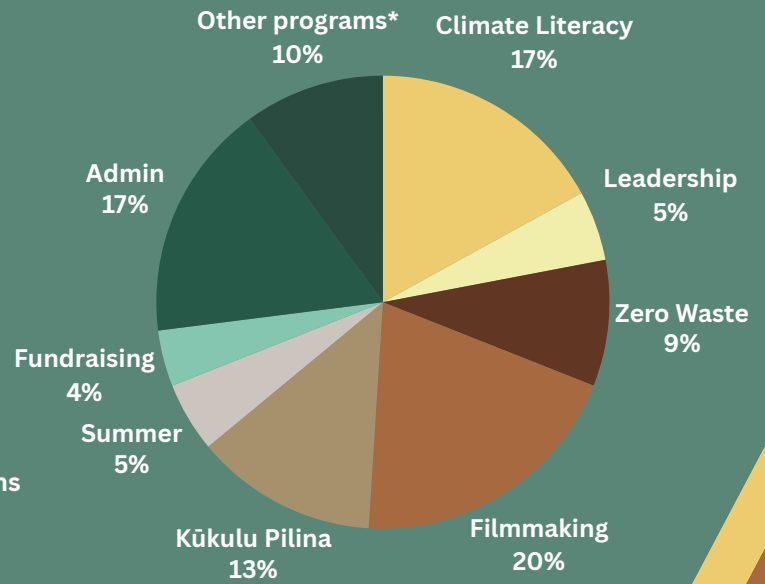
11th grade student, Makai Career Exploration Day

FINANCIAL REPORTS & OUTLOOK FOR 2024

2023 Funding Sources



2023 Expenses by Program



*Other programs include Alumni Council & Careers in Conservation

Mahalo to:

- The Stupski Foundation
- Hau'oli Mau Loa
- Hawai'i Community Foundation
- Nuestro Futuro Foundation
- County of Maui
 - Dept of Environmental Management
 - Office of Innovation & Sustainability
- Makana Aloha Foundation
- EHW Broadbent Foundation
- Johnson 'Ohana Foundation
- Bendon Family Foundation
- The Hanley Foundation
- Grace Family Foundation
- Minneapolis Foundation (Susan Bradford) and all our donors and event attendees!

MEALS FOR MAUI

Maui youth and chefs will provide locally-sourced hot meals to individuals and families in need after the wildfires.

Saturday, Sept 23rd

Meal distribution sites (12-1pm):

Mahalo to the sponsors who supported our meal service efforts for fire survivors in place of our annual benefit dinner!

Sponsors: blue ginger, cdi, Hawaiian Electric, SWINERTON, SKYLINE HAWAII, MAUI BREADFRUIT COMPANY, lilikoi, MAUI NUI VENISON, UH MC, SUGAR BEACH EVENTS OF HAWAII.

ANNUAL OPERATING BUDGET GROWTH

