

# Hawaii Tribune Herald

## Local News

### More than \$180K to boost native culture on Big Island

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By Tribune-Herald

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The Hawaii Tourism Authority is awarding more than \$180,000 to Big Island-based programs aimed at perpetuating the Hawaiian culture.

The grants are among \$600,000 spread statewide among 27 projects that are receiving the funds, the HTA said in announcing recipients of the Living Hawaiian Culture Program.

At the top of the list is a \$60,000 award to Na 'Aikane o Pu'ukohola Heiau; money will fund the restoration of the famous war temple of Kamehameha I at Kawaihae.

Workshops will be conducted to create implements and vestments for ceremonies and docents will be trained.

The island's second-largest award, \$30,000, will go to Hui Ho'oniho, which needs to complete an environmental assessment for a three-year project to rehabilitate 'Ai'opio Fishtrap, located in Kaloko-Honokohau National Historical Park.

Other awards include:

-- \$25,000 to the Hawaii Future Farmers of America Foundation to mentor Kohala youth and their families on traditional Hawaiian cultural practices through the propagation of kalo and traditional saddle-making.

-- \$20,000 to the Hale Mua Cultural Group to put on the Kamehameha Festival on June 11 at Coconut Island.

-- \$20,000 to the Lyman Museum for a full exhibit of lei hulu (Hawaiian featherwork), demonstrations, and the training of museum staff and docents.

-- \$18,000 to The Kohala Center for a lecture series at Kahalu'u Bay and other locations.

-- \$10,000 to the Bishop Museum to replant an entire collection of 70 taro varieties at Ka'awaloa, where Capt. James Cook died. A taro apprentice will be recruited to give poi demonstrations at the Amy B.H. Greenwell Ethnobotanical Garden.

-- \$10,000 to the Hawaii Forest Industry Association for a one-year cultural education and volunteer stewardship program at Ka'upulehu Dryland Forest and Kalaemano Cultural Center in North Kona.

The Big Island is also a recipient of several other grants that are being spread statewide. 'Aha Punana Leo is getting \$85,000 to increase viewership for the Hawaiian language news program, 'Aha'i 'Olelo Ola.

The Hula Preservation Society is receiving \$15,000 for a project to save the rare hula 'ohe, or nose flute hula, from extinction.

Finally, the Na'alehu Theatre Inc. is getting \$15,000 to provide a year of free public performances and workshops statewide for communities at risk, featuring close interaction with Hawaii's master musicians.

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