

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## Puana Ka 'Ike lecture explores Native Hawaiian filmmaking

KAMUELA, Hawai'i—November 9, 2011—Film producers Na'alehu Anthony of Palikū Documentary Films and Puhipau of Nā Maka o ka 'Āina will discuss Native Hawaiian filmmaking in an upcoming *Puana Ka 'Ike* lecture in Kona and an *Eia Hawai'i* presentation in Hilo. This free presentation is scheduled from noon to 1:30 p.m. on Thursday, November 17, at the University of Hawai'i at Hilo, Campus Center Room 301, and from 5:30 to 7 p.m. on Friday, November 18, in the ballroom at the Keauhou Beach Resort in Kona.

Anthony and Puhipau will recount how they got started in film production and discuss their experiences as Native Hawaiian filmmakers. Both producers will then share some short video clips of their work. Community members are invited to attend this event in person, as this lecture will not be available as an online video.

Anthony is a Native Hawaiian and is the founder of Palikū Documentary Films, a production company that focuses on documentaries and oral histories with a special emphasis on Hawai'i and its people. His desire to give voice to Hawai'i's stories—as told by Hawaiians—motivated Anthony to pursue a career in film and television. Anthony is CEO for 'Ōiwi Television Network on Oceanic Cable's Digital Channel 326. 'Ōiwi TV is the only all Hawaiian culture, Hawaiian language content station in Hawai'i.

Anthony's other lifelong passion is being part of the voyaging community. "As a crew member and more recently as a captain aboard Hōkūle'a, my voyaging experiences have shaped and defined me as a person and have been a focal point for my films," he said.

Puhipau is the co-founder with Joan Lander of Nā Maka o ka 'Āina ("The Eyes of the Land"), an independent video production company that focuses on the land and people of Hawai'i and the Pacific. Documenting traditional and contemporary Hawaiian culture, history, language, environment, and the politics of independence and sovereignty, Nā Maka o ka 'Āina has produced over 90 documentary and educational programs since 1982. Nā Maka o ka 'Āina productions have screened at film festivals from Japan to Berlin, capturing awards from CINE, the Columbus International Film Festival, the Corporation for Public Broadcasting, the Hawai'i International Film Festival, Two Rivers Native Film and Video Festival, Earthvision

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International Environmental Film Festival, and the Berkeley Video and Film Festival. Major documentaries include:

- Mauna Kea—Temple Under Siege
- Act of War—The Overthrow of the Hawaiian Nation
- Mālama Hāloa—Protecting the Taro
- PIKO—A Gathering of Indigenous Artists
- Stolen Waters

"Living on Sand Island in Honolulu Harbor in the 1970s, I followed the traditions of my ancestors, living on the land, gathering from the sea," Puhipau said. "I also learned the economic reality of others living on the island, their stories of evictions, of being pushed out and forced into a subsistence lifestyle.

"After working with a local video team who came to document the eventual eviction and broadcast the story on PBS, I saw the power of video to change public awareness in a big way." Puhipau said. "Since then, I have been producing documentary programming on the history, culture, language, and environment of Hawai'i and its people, as well as telling the story of the effects of occupation on a native people, their country, and government."

Anthony and Puhipau's presentation will include video clips that document efforts for water and land rights, protection of the mother tongue, sacred landscapes and traditional agriculture and food, and re-recognition of a country among the family of nations. The clips will portray public events—centennials, hearings, speeches, rallies, evictions, marches, and ceremonies—and reveal the Hawaiian culture and traditions that are at the heart of these events.

For more information on these presentations, contact Joy Cunefare at (808) 534-8528 or e-mail <a href="mailto:info@kohalacenter.org">info@kohalacenter.org</a>. For lecture schedules and webcasts of previous lectures, visit <a href="http://kohalacenter.org/puanakaike/about.html">http://kohalacenter.org/puanakaike/about.html</a> and <a href="www.keauhouresort.com/learn-puanakaike.html">www.keauhouresort.com/learn-puanakaike.html</a>.

The Puana Ka 'Ike and Eia Hawai'i lecture series are presented in partnership with Keauhou-Kahalu'u Education Group of Kamehameha Schools, The Kohala Center, the Kīpuka Native Hawaiian Student Center at the University of Hawai'i at Hilo, and Keauhou Beach Resort.