

HĀLAU MŌHALA 'ILIMA

Founded in 1976

Hālau Mōhala 'Ilima

is dedicated to the preservation of Hawaiian culture through hula. We specialize in traditionally learned and transmitted chants and dances, particularly those of the 18th and 19th centuries that celebrate the life of our land and people. We also work with a large repertoire of modern hula whose celebratory spirit is consistent with that of our older traditions. We are dedicated, finally, to the teaching of aloha, hō'ihi, ala hāiki, and kūlia i ka nu'u (love, reverence, discipline, and commitment to excellence) through hula, since we believe that hula means little if it fails to enrich our lives and make us better people.

The Halau offers 17 classes of hula a week to 300 students.

One measure of the hālau's long-term commitment to the preservation of Hawaiian culture through hula is our record of participation in the major hula festivals of the last three decades: 30 consecutive Merrie Monarch appearances, 27 Keiki Hula appearances, 27 Hawai'i Secondary Schools' Hula Competition appearances, and 21 King Kamehameha Celebration appearances.

Perhaps more significant is our record of 'ūniki; in the 31 years of our existence we have trained, graduated, and given to the next generation 31 kumu hula and almost 100 'ōlapa. These graduates take their hula knowledge and values into their homes and their many walks of life. They are lawyers, teachers (lots of teachers), police detectives, university students, PhD candidates, non-profit CEOs, customs agents, curriculum specialists, small-business owners, accountants, nurses, executive secretaries. We see them as keepers of the culture, as living libraries, and as pale kai, the first line of defense against the tides of change that threaten the teachings of our kūpuna.

Kuma Hula: Māpuana de Silva

is a graduate of Punahou School (1967) and Pacific University (1971). In 1975, she graduated as a kumu hula from Maiki Aiu Lake and, a year later, opened Hālau Mōhala 'Ilima. She continued her hula studies under Lani Kalama, Sally Wood Naluai, and Pat Namaka Bacon, and she has completed three years of Hawaiian language study at UH Mānoa. In addition to teaching all of the hālau's 19 weekly classes, Māpu has been a part-time kumu hula at the Hawaiian language immersion school Ke Kula 'O Samuel M. Kamakau, and she has volunteered for 30 years as the kumu hula of the Kamehameha Schools' hula club Nā Wāhine Hele Lā o Kaiona. In the summer of 2004, she led the Hawai'i delegation to the 9th Festival of Pacific Arts in the Republic of Palau, and -- in the summer of '08 -- she did the same for the 10th FPA in American Sāmoa.



HĀLAU MŌHALA 'ĪLIMA

Founded in 1976 (continued)

Among the most significant of Māpu's awards are those received from the UH Mānoa College of Education for excellence in arts education (1990), from Pacific University for achievements in performing arts education (Outstanding Alumnus, 1999), and from 'Ahahui 'Ōlelo Hawai'i for excellence in Hawaiian language education outside the standard classroom setting ("Manu a Ka'ae," 2000).

For more information: <http://web.mac.com/halaumohalailima>



HĀLAU NAWAIPUNALEI

Founded in 1999

Halau Nawaipunalei ,under the direction of Na Kumu Hula Pono and Leimomi Murray, has taught Oli and Hula on the southside of Maui since 1999. They have participated in several Hula Competitions throughout the state and have been able to be involved in many cultural events and ceremonies.

