

Objective

My objective is to obtain a seat on the Kahana Planning Council, and encourage growth, and forward movement by offering my services to the council. My strength is to understand relationships. We are all connected one way or another, but the strength of our connection depends on our understanding of relationships, how we are relative to each relationship, and recognizing our role in the relationship. As kanaka, we must recognize these various relationships (Residents/State; kanaka/aina; uka/kai) and how we are interdependent in order for us to make real progress and move forward.

Experience

Hoala Aina Kupono, President

2011 - Present

- Through organization of our Board and community members (of Kahana, and Koolauloa as well) we have been able to coordinate efforts to propagate Native Hawaiian plants through our Aloha Kahana project, activate our bay monitoring through the Kahana Kilo Kai program, and offer Kahana and Koolauloa families the opportunity to participate in aloha aina activities through the Kahana Ohana Lawaia Camp.

Kumu Alakai, Aha Punana Leo (Punana Leo o Koolau Loa)

2008 - 2011; 2014 - Present

- As lead teacher, my responsibility includes executing Aha Punana Leo curriculum as it applies to our space and place in Koolauloa. As a teaching team we are responsible for the education of our keiki in olelo Hawaii, and the education of our ohana. We use aina-based curriculum and activities to make these connections of cultural and western knowledge to keep us grounded in these modern times.

Kumu Alakai, Ke Kula o Samuel Manaiakalani Kamakau

2011-2014

- Our team was given the task of implementing aina-based education for preschoolers through the Na Pualei o Sarah Hainakolo Kamakau program at Ke Kula o Kamakau. This kuleana involved creating Kumulipo-based curriculum that aligns with the rest of Ke Kula o Kamakau grade levels, and creating assessments that help in showing the keikis progress.

Paepae o Heeia, on-call/seasonal limahana

2001 - 2013

- Started as a kumu/teacher as part of Ka Ai Kamahao program, leading students from various charter schools in data collection and creating a moon calendar specific to Heeia fishpond.

Hui Ku Maoli Ola, limahana

2006 - 2007

- Laborer in propagating Native Hawaiian plants.

Ka Papa Loi o Kanewai/Punaluu, limahana

2002 - 2006

- Responsible for organizing student groups from pre-kindergarten through high school, with a focus on the University classes in their participation at Kanewai and Punaluu gardens. Specialized in taro farming from planting to harvest. Community workdays were organized to bridge community members and University students by working together, and eating together.

Education

University of Hawaii at Manoa

Pursuing a BA in Hawaiian Studies, with a focus in Malama Aina. Took time off to gain experience in malama aina, and malama kai projects (volunteer work with Kanehunamoku Sailing Academy, and Na Kalai Waa moku o Keawe).

Ke Kula Kaiapuni o Anuenue

Received a diploma as the third graduating class of Ke Kula Kaiapuni o Anuenue.

Skills

- Curriculum development (place-base, aloha aina-base learning)
- Educator (all ages)
- Olelo Hawaii
- Uka/kai education
- Facilitator
- Mediator
- Organizer