

From: media@oha.org
To: [IBC for Advocacy](#)
Subject: New submission from Island Burial Council Application
Date: Tuesday, November 12, 2024 9:46:51 PM

Name

Bennadette Kaehuokalani Duman

Place of Birth

Maui

Length of residence in Hawai'i

50

Residence Address

[REDACTED]

What moku (island) do you represent?

Maui/Lāna'i

Moku (district)

Maui

Phone

[REDACTED]

Email

[REDACTED]

Employer

Halacalā National Park

Occupation

Park Ranger

Are you presently serving on another state board or commission?

No

Questions

1. Why would you like to serve on an Island Burial Council?

I have a lot to learn about what it takes to be on the burial council but I learn fast. I have a desire to give back to my 'āina and people and this is a good start to contribute on the burial council. I was also encouraged when I attended this year's Council for Native Hawaiian Advancement Convention to join committees and councils to increase Native Hawaiian leadership in our community.

2. What is your experience or background with Hawaiian culture, history, customs, practices, and in particular, beliefs and practices relating to the care and protection of Native Hawaiian burial sites, ancestral remains, and burial items?

One of my duties at Haleakalā National Park is a liaison between the park and Native Hawaiian organizations and individuals to assist in section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act. I also train and educate new employees, interns, volunteers, and partners on culture via basic Hawaiian language and Hawaiian history from a Hawaiian perspective. I still have so much to learn. I am not fluent in 'Ōlelo Hawai'i but it was instilled in me while hearing my tūtū speak while growing up.

3. What is your connection to the geographic region you propose to represent?

I am a Native Hawaiian from Lāhaina, Maui and I live upcountry.

My tūtū co-founded Queen Keōpūolani's tomb in Lāhaina at Waiola church and she took care of the tomb too while living on the property. I have fond memories with my grandma cleaning the tomb with the water hose while I played in the water. An auntie told me that it was a way of normalizing being around our kupuna and not being afraid of being around the graveyard.

Employment and Community Experience

Employment history

Employer	From (year)	To (year)
Haleakalā National Park	2010	2024

Community Experience and Professional Organizations

- Jesus Is Alive Church board member and choir member
- Cornerstone Christian Church worship team member (current)
- Service Learning at The Nature Conservancy and Maui Nui Botanical Gardens
- Volunteered at The Nature Conservancy and Auwahi
- Liholani Village HOA member and President (current)
- National Park Service Pathways to Effective Consultation Participant and Trainer (current)
- National Park Service Regional Education Advisory Committee member
- Haleakalā National Park Collections Advisory Committee member (current)