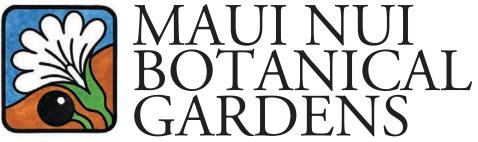
Conserving Hawaiian Plants & Cultural Heritage





FALL 2019 . Newsletter . Volume 51

# Floral emblems of the islands: Maui's non-native rose

By: Tamara Sherrill

If you've heard about the lei flower or plant representing each Hawaiian island, you may have noticed that most are native. Maui's flower, the Lokelani Rose, is the only post-European contact plant. How did this come about?

A Joint Resolution passed by the Territory of Hawai'i in 1923 named the PUA ALOLO (Hibiscus) as the flower emblem of the state; this same Resolution also named "local flowers" that had previously been adopted for single island emblems as:



Kahoʻolawe's emblem, the silvery Hinahina. Photo by Forest and Kim Starr.

### Hawai'i

PUA LEHUA

('Ōhia Lehua; the endemic Metrosideros sp.)

### O'ahu

PUA ILIMA

('Ilima; the indigenous Sida fallax)

### Maui

LOKELANI

(an introduced pink Rose; Rosa damascena, R. chinensis, or a hybrid)

### Kauaʻi

### **MOKIHANA**

(Mokihana, Mokehana, Alani; the Kauai endemic *Melicope anisata*)

#### Molokai

### PUA KUKUI

(Kukui; the Polynesian introduced *Aleurites moluccana*)

### Lāna'i

### KAUNAOA

(Kauna'oa; the endemic *Cuscuta sandwichiana*)

### **Kaho'olawe**

HINAHINA

(Hinahina; the endemic

Heliotropium anomalum var. argenteum) Later, it came to be known that Ni'ihau had chosen the white PUPU shell as their island emblem.

Choosing Hibiscus to represent the state began with the first Outdoor Circle group established on Oʻahu in 1912. In the 1920's they advocated for under-

ground wiring, landscaping for military installations, the elimination of billboards, and to promote the adoption of a Hawaiian flower. This led to the Joint Resolution by the Territorial Legislature that designated Hibiscus, with no species specified, as the official floral emblem of Hawai'i. For many years, the Chinese red Hibiscus and other colors were used. It wasn't until 1988, long after statehood, that the Legislature amended the Revised Statutes to designate the endemic endangered Hibiscus brackenridgei as the official Hawaiian flower. Act 272 of the 1959 Territorial Legislature choose the Kukui (Aleurites moluccana) as Hawai'i's official state tree, designating it as "native", though it is actually a canoe plant brought by the first Polynesian settlers.

So why did Maui come to be symbolized by a rose? Our board member Bob Hobdy Continued on page 2

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Layout Editor, U'i Naho'olewa

Floral Emblems of the Islands... continued



Lāna'i's emblem, the orange Kauna'oa, growing on purple Pōhuehue.

writes, "There has been so much speculation over the years as to what the Lokelani Rose was/is and what it looked like. Many who live on older properties claim that they have it, but when you look at them, they all look different. Inez Ashdown, back in the 1970's, stated that there were three types she remembered from her childhood: the 'Luau rose' which was a dark red rose; the 'Halona rose' which was a faintly pink and white rose that grew in upper Lahaina; and the 'Lokelani rose' which was pink." Marie Neal, writing in her book in 1965,

In Gardens of Hawaiʻi, said that the Lokelani rose was either *Rosa damascena*, *Rosa chinensis* or an unspecified hybrid. Bob speculated, "I suspect that it was a wonderfully fragrant rose growing on the properties of some prominent individuals on Maui that would have led to its selection over a native species such as the iconic Haleakala silversword." Bob notes that the Damask type shrub rose he has seen still growing on Maui have a wonderful fragrance but drop their petals quickly when picked, making them unsuitable for lei.

At some point colors became associated with each island based on the original floral emblems, with the Big Island associated with red, Oʻahu yellow, Maui pink, Kauaʻi purple, Molokaʻi green, Lānaʻi orange, Kahoʻolawe silver-gray, and Niʻihau white.

Although the Lokelani Rose was obviously beloved, it has been uncommon for many years and there is confusion about which rose still growing is the true Lokelani. If we were to choose a new, perhaps native plant emblem that maintains our "pink" identity and represents Maui Island, what would it be? Post your thoughts on social media using the hashtag #FloralEmblemForMaui.

## MALP's Garden Expo joins with Arbor Day

By: Tamara Sherrill

Two events, Maui Nui Botanical Gardens Arbor Day 1,000 Hawaiian Tree Give Away and the Maui Association of Landscape Professionals Maui Garden Expo are merging in 2019 to create The Arbor Day Garden Expo and Tree Give Away. It's been many years since these two events were held in tandem. This means that on Saturday, November 2, you can still come get your free native tree, but there will be new things to see and do! For example:

- **Hours will be extended**, from 9 am to 2 pm. Arrive early for best tree selection; we may run out of trees before the event ends.
- **Expanded plant sale.** Plants both native and non-native plants will be sold by local nurseries; only non-invasive species will be sold (mahalo to MISC for vetting growers).
- **In addition** to our tree climbing demo, landscape industry members will demonstrate more products and techniques, like grower supplies and irrigation technical support.
- New speakers. Speakers will be scheduled throughout the day, including Ken Love from Hawai'i Tropical Fruit Growers on the Big Island, our new County Arborist Tim Griffith who will speak about tree care.
- The Mālama i ka 'Āina award will be presented by Maui Invasive Species Committee. This award is presented annually to a landscaper, plant provider (retail or wholesale nurseries and garden shops), commercial agricultural property owner or manager, to recognize their efforts to keep invasive species out of Maui County.

  To nominate someone, contact miscpr@hawaii.edu.
- New keiki activities. In addition to our free lei making, Makahiki games, lauhala bracelet weaving, and kapa making, there will be expanded keiki activities for kids to learn about gardens and plants. Allison Wright of MALP says of the partnership, "We're excited to add new information sharing with this opportunity to bring together local green industry vendors and the public." For more information, go to www.arbordayexpo.com.



### With Gratitude from Our Garden:

Paul Kastner for a pressure washer, Cindy Singer for garden gloves, Diane Carr for sun protection, L. Alakai Paleka for zip-ties, a display rack, and table cloths, Maggie Sniffen for garden gloves and scrubbing pads, George & Janet Allan for volunteer drinks, and Jennifer Bohlin for pots and garden tools.

### MNBG Contributions to the Community:

Maui Master Gardeners Program (kō, noni, māmaki, kalo, awapuhi, kī, pia, uhi, 'uala), Kamehameha Schools ('uhi, koali 'ai, 'uki'uki, 'ōhi'a 'ai, māmaki), Society for the Advancement of Natives in STEM (hala, hala pēpē, naio papa, 'uki'uki, 'ae'ae, nehe), Ha'ikū Elementary School ('uki'uki, ma'o, pōpolo, 'āhinahina, 'ōhelo kai, nehe, pā'ū o hi'iaka), Coastal Restoration Projects (milo, kamani, 'a'ali'i, kūlu'i, naupaka kahakai, aweoweo papa, 'ahu'awa, wauke, noni, 'ihi), Maui Ocean Center ('ohai), Plant Extinction Prevention Program ('ohai), Nā Hanona Kulike'O Pi'ilani (hau, ma'o, 'uki'uki).

### Mahalo to our Interns & Volunteers:

Molly Wirth, Becky Diven, Emmely Felipe, Salena Honokaupu, Marta Alvarez, Mary Alleca, Gary Shay, Keilana Calder, Katie Thibault, Gerry Wingate, Kaipo Park, Easter Seals, Hawaii Job Core & Lā 'Ulu event volunteers.

### Wish List

- Umbrellas
- Garden gloves (all sizes)
- Rakes (leaf or landscaping)
- Medium sized picks
- Shovels
- Sickles
- Hand pruners (clippers)
- Leaf shredder
- Wood chipper
- Outdoor tables & chairs
- Dehydrator for making Taro Flour
- Hawaiian Miles (for interisland travel for staff training)
- Seeking donations toward a new screen and projector for our education pavilion!

NEW! Check out MNBG's wish list on AMAZON by visiting this link: http://a.co/eWBZKw3 We are no longer accepting drop offs of used plastic pots. If you have new or used cement or ceramic pots to donate, please give us a call and we will be happy to arrange a pick up.



### Save the Date

# Living Wreath Making Workshop Saturday, December 7, 9 AM to 12 PM

Native plants provide more than just food and habitat for wildlife: they also provide great beauty all year long! Learn to make a living wreath from Native Hawaiian plants in time for the Holidays with MNBG Executive Director, Tamara Sherrill. Cost: \$50, or \$25 for current Garden members includes all materials.

Call 249-2798 or email info@mnbg.org for reservations.

## Garden News

### MNBG Plays Role in Maui's Rapid 'Ōhi'a Death Response Plan

By: Marta Alvarez, MEO Americorps



MNBG interns Salena, Emmely, and Marta in front of an 'ōhi'a tree at Haleakalā National Park.

In July 2019, an 'ōhi'a tree on Maui was found infected with Rapid 'Ōhi'a Death (ROD). ROD, caused by a pathogen called *Ceratocystis*, is responsible for infecting and killing thousands of 'ōhi'a trees. As 'ōhi'a is a key species in native Hawaiian forests, this has serious ecological implications for Maui's forests, wildlife, and watersheds.

Fortunately, conservation organizations across the state have mobilized to do what they can in terms of controlling the spread of ROD and trying to keep native 'ōhi'a lehua populations healthy. The infected tree was burned, and aerial surveys are periodically executed to look out for more. As human activity is the main cause of spreading infections like ROD,

workshops are being held to educate leaders in the ecotourism sector, and organizations are working to spread information to the public by providing signage and boot brushes near trail-heads around the island.

One of the responses to ROD is 'ōhi'a seed collection, so that seeds of healthy trees can be stored in order to be grown for genetic testing, restoration of healthy populations, and to maintain genetic diversity of the species if the populations do reach critical levels. Maui Nui Botanical Gardens has a growing and developing collection of native Hawaiian plant seeds, and has been able to provide proper storage for wild collected 'ōhi'a seeds. In July, MNBG interns and staff went on a field trip to Haleakalā National Park to collect healthy 'ōhi'a seeds and test out the database used for keeping track of wild collected seeds. We collaborated with botanist Patti Walton and horticulturalist Michelle Oswald, and hope to continue collecting seeds from areas like Haleakalā in the future. The thousands of seeds gathered on this trip have since been dried down, frozen and stored in the MNBG seed bank as well as shipped to Lyon Arboretum at UH Manoa for storage in a second location.

If you want more information about how you can prevent the spread of Rapid 'Ōhi'a Death on Maui, visit

rapidohiadeath.org or laukahi.org/ohia.

### Meet MNBG's New Docents

MNBG's docent training program ran through spring and summer and resulted in five newly trained docents to help lead ethnobotany tours at the Gardens. Trainees learned about the history of the Garden; Hawaiian geography, evolution, and conservation; and practiced speaking about and demonstrating ethnobotanical uses of key species. Each docent received a tour bag for artifacts and photos, and flash cards containing tour information for 57 different species. On their inaugural tours, each docent highlighted uses of hala, kukui, 'ulu, 'ānapanapa, niu, kalo, hau, noni, and wauke for Maui County Parks and Recreation PALS keiki. Our gratitude to docents Sandy, Linda, Gloria, Becky, and Margi (not pictured) for your dedication and willingness to learn.

Docent led tours are offered for \$10 per person, weekdays at 10am, by appointment only.

Call 808-249-2798 for reservations.



From left: Executive Director Tamara Sherrill with MNBG docents Gloria Adlawan, Becky Lau, Linda Tesar-Amimoto, and Sandy Viloria.





# GARDEN EXPO & TREE GIVEAWAY

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 2ND, 9AM-2PM MAUI NUI BOTANICAL GARDENS

150 KANALOA ST, KAHULUI ACROSS FROM THE WAR MEMORIAL STADIUM

# FREE PARKING, FREE ADMISSION, AND A FREE NATIVE TREE!

- LOCAL NURSERIES AND LANDSCAPE INDUSTRY VENDORS
- 1,000 FREE HAWAIIAN TREES, ONE PER PERSON ANY AGE
- HAWAIIAN CULTURAL ACTIVITIES AND OTHER FREE KEIKI ACTIVITIES
- HOME GARDEN AND TREE CARE PRESENTATIONS BY CERTIFIED ARBORISTS
- PRESENTATION OF ANNUAL MĀLAMA I KA 'ĀINA AWARD

**Sponsors:** 



















WWW.ARBORDAYEXPO.COM

# The Garden View

### A Successful Lā 'Ulu 2019!

Lā 'Ulu: Breadfruit Day at MNBG was our best attended to date, with more than 2,400 people visiting and participants from four islands. By 10:30 am, a performance by Shem Kahawai was getting the event off to a great start, Kahanu Garden was halfway through their mad rush to sell out of 72 'ulu trees, and the first chef demonstration had begun.

Pueo Pata sang and talked story about his favorite way to prepare 'ulu; Leipono performed "He Nani No e ka 'Ulu (the 'ulu tree is beautiful)" while Leimomi Murray danced hula with an amazing 'ulu "parachute" dress. Uluwehi Guerrero and Hālau Hula Kauluokalā came in full force with keiki, 'ōpio, and kupuna dancers. As the music played, some top notch creativity was being exhibited by 12 chefs and food vendors using 'ulu to make takoyaki, risotto, curry, pizza, tacos, chips, hummus, fruit and nuts bowls, pies, mousse, and more.

Attendees got technical support growing 'ulu from the Breadfruit Institute, UH Mānoa, and Agroforestry Net. Major support for this event was provided by Hawai'i Tourism through the Community Enrichment Program and Ulupono Initiative. Hope to see you there next year!



Leimomi Murray performs "He Nani No e ka 'Ulu'



'Ulu Risotto with Lemon and Parmesan samples by Grand Wailea chef Mike LeFaro.

Marta working with kukui at our lama kū (kukui torch making) workshop.

### Mahalo e Marta

We had an amazing team of three Americorps members this summer as well as an intern from Nā Hua Hoʻohuli i ka Pono. We'd like to say a special mahalo to the member who served the longest, Marta Alvarez. Marta made the move to Maui from California to work 900 hours as part of Maui Economic Opportunity's Americorps Program at the Gardens. She biked to work every day. Marta worked in the hot sun repairing and installing irrigation to help us save on water use. She decided that the coastal native plants garden located in the center of our site would be her special project, and it now looks better than we've ever seen. Marta has a friendly, open attitude and never turned down a single workshop, training, field trip, or meeting. She plans next to return to California and continue to learn about native plants in her home state. Everyone at MNBG is saddened to see her go. Mahalo nunui e Marta for your hard work and unparalleled contribution to our team.

# Volunteer Central



Current MNBG Staff, Interns, and Americorps Members.



Volunteer Becky Lau prepares for a lei making demonstration.



Kūpuna of Hālau Kauluokalā perform at Lā ʿUlu 2019.



If you love working with native plants, you'll love the Weed & Pot Club! This volunteer gardening group meets every Wednesday morning, from 8:30 AM to 10:30 AM. Spend your morning helping the Gardens thrive through weeding and propagation. Come prepared to work with covered shoes and gardening attire.

### Mahalo Weed & Pot Club

- Gloria Adlawan
- Janet Allan
- Diane Carr
- Mikki Clark
- Paul Kastner
- Perrisa Kilmer
- Becky Lau

- Renee Leiter
- Jennifer Rose
- Fred Rymsha
- Janet Rymsha
- Enid Sands
- Vilma Seiler
- Anna Mae Shishido
- Maggie Sniffen
- Linda Tesar-Amimoto
- Mālie Unabia-Verkerke
- Sandy Viloria
- Robin Yamashita



MNBG appreciates Kaunoa's RSVP partnership for its support of MNBG volunteers. Like MNBG, Kaunoa provides opportunities for people 55 and better to learn and grow through a variety of programs throughout Maui Nui. Call (808) 270-7986 for more information.

### Check Out What's Blooming!

### Wiliwili

Erythrina sandwicensis

Wiliwili will grow in the harshest environments where few other native plants can survive. Wiliwili seeds and flowers continue to be used to make beautiful permanent and temporary lei. The lightweight wood was the preferred choice for making surfboards (papa he'e nalu) in old Hawai'i.



### Officers:

#### President

Chris (Ikaika) Nakahashi

#### Vice-President

Diane Carr

### Secretary

Janet Allan

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Program Manager: Whit Germano

Garden & Nursery Manager: Chris d'Avella

Kalo Varieties Manager: Nameaaea Hoshino

Horticulturalist: Kara Ueki

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### **CURRENT DONORS:**

### HONORARY LIFETIME

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### **Current Grantors:**

County of Maui Office of Economic Development,
Hawaii Tourism through the Community Enrichment, Aloha 'Āina,
and Kukulu Ola Programs, County of Maui Department of Parks
and Recreation, Ceres Trust, Hawaii Community Foundation,
Maui Nui Community Fund, Fred Baldwin Memorial Foundation,
the Zadoc W. and Lawrence N. Brown Foundation,
AHS Foundation, and the Kaulunani Program of the DLNR
Division of Forestry and Wildlife and the USDA Forest Service.

### Ma'o Hau Hele (\$1,000 - \$4,999)

Lesley & Pawel Czechowicz Rose Marie Gooding Raymond S. Higashi Robert & Doreen Hobdy Malamalama Maui Project Maui Breadfruit Company Na Leo Pulama O Maui Inc. Papa Ola Lokahi Jennifer & Charlie Rose Beth Savitt Ulupono Initiative

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Kaleiopuaonālani 'Uwēko'olani

Kapeka Vares Rance Villarimo

Shawn Wallace & Ron Thomas

Mark Yoshida

#### In Memoriam:

Mary Evanson Luke Kamalani Kukuiokalā McLean



MAUI NUI BOTANICAL GARDENS

MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the Maui Nui Botanical Gardens is to foster appreciation and understanding of Maui Nui's plants and their role in Hawaiian cultural expression by providing a gathering place for discovery, education, and conservation.

**LOCATION & HOURS** 150 Kanaloa Avenue Keōpūolani Park, Kahului Across from the

War Memorial Sports Complex

Monday-Saturday 8:00 am - 4:00 pm\*

Closed Sundays & Major Holidays

\*Weather permitting

**GROUP RESERVATIONS** 

Reservations are required for group activities.

CONTACT INFORMATION Mailing: P.O. Box 6040 Kahului, HI 96733

TEL: (808) 249-2798 FAX: (808) 249-0325

Email: info@mnbg.org Website: www.mnbg.org



We are extremely grateful to all who have made donations to the Gardens over the years.

We make every effort to assure an accurate membership list; however, if your name was omitted or misspelled, please contact us at info@mnbg.org and we will be happy to update our records.

### Become a friend of MNBG on Social Media!



facebook.com/Mau-

iNuiBG



@MauiNuiBG



@MauiNuiBG

### SAVE A TREE!

If you would like to receive your newsletters via email. please email us at info@mnbg.org. You may also view them on our website:

www.mnbg.org

### MAUI NUI BOTANICAL GARDENS

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Arbor Day: Garden Expo & Tree Giveaway Saturday, November 2nd, from 9am-12pm See Page 2 for more info!

### SUPPORT THE GARDENS & HELP NATIVE PLANTS THRIVE

Kupu means to sprout or grow. Just like the kupukupu ferns, you can help the Gardens grow through donations, memberships, bequests or by volunteering. Your contribution helps to ensure the survival and perpetuation of native Hawaiian plants and culture.

### DONATE

Donations of monetary or in-kind contributions are greatly appreciated.

To contribute, please fill out the enclosed donation envelope, call 249-2798 or visit www.mnbg.org to donate online.

### MEMBERSHIP

Yearly memberships help to fund important botanical and educational programs, research and conservation efforts. Fill out the enclosed donation envelope or call 249-2798 to become a member.

### LEAVE A LEGACY

Play a lasting part in protecting Hawai'i's native plants through planned giving. Consider making a bequest to the Maui Nui Botanical Gardens in your will or trust. Call 249-2798.

### VOLUNTEER

Give a gift of time. Volunteering at MNBG helps the Gardens accomplish many projects and also gives you an opportunity to learn about and work with native plants.

Join our Weed & Pot Club every Wednesday morning from 8:30 am - 10:30 am.

Call 249-2798 or visit www.mnbg.org for more information.