



MAUI NUI BOTANICAL GARDENS



Spring 2016 . Newsletter . Volume 44

Pō‘ulu keiki hele kula School groups at MNBG

By: Tamara Sherrill

MNBG offers a variety of activities to visiting schools and senior groups throughout the week. Last year, 67 groups participated in our education program: 996 children from preschool to high school age, and 487 adults and seniors, of which 319 were college students.

Former director, Lisa Schattenburg-Raymond, began our education program and trained docents to give our Ethnobotanical Tour, which is now our most popular activity. Former director, Joylynn Paman, improved the program by creating craft activities for young keiki, creating an “Exploring Our Hawaiian Garden Activity Book”, and by initiating our audio wand tour. Today, we offer a wider range of activities and tours suitable for all ages, and have expanded the audio wand self-guided tour to nearly 80 plant species. Reservations are required in advance for all group activities, and space is limited.

What is alternate leaf arrangement? What is opposite leaf arrangement? Our Botanical Terminology Scavenger Hunt defines 12 botanical terms and invites students to find labeled plants for each characteristic. What grows first, fruit, flower, or seed? The Seed Scavenger Hunt discusses the parts of a flower and the relationship between

flowers, fruits, and seeds. The Evolution and Conservation Tour highlights plants that illustrate dispersal, speciation, and modern day threats. The first part of our audio tour helps people understand which plants will grow best in their area. For younger keiki, we host activities making newspaper pots and planting easy to sprout ‘ipu seeds and ‘uala cuttings, and looking around the Garden for different insects in soil, mulch, on leaves and on flowers.

Activities that Teach

Native Plant Botany and Identification

- Botanical Terminology Scavenger Hunt
- Seed Scavenger Hunt
- Evolution and Conservation of Native Plants Tour
- Landscaping with Native Plants Tour – also available on our audio wand tour
- Seeds and Cuttings
- Bugs and Insects Hunt

Which plants at MNBG were most important to the first people who settled Hawai‘i? Our Ethnobotany Tour emphasizes plants that supplied house materials, clothes, food, medicine, and even toys. These uses are also featured



The Children of Kihei Head Start learn about bananas and other Hawaiian food plants.

on the second part of our audio tour. Volunteer Gloria Adlawan includes hands-on demonstrations like making soap suds from ‘ānapanapa leaves and cutting open fruits with bright dyes inside. We also offer tours that focus upon important crop plants and their unique varieties; plants with medicinal uses; and plants associated with romance and reproduction (high school age and older only). For younger kids, volunteer Malie Unabia-Verkerke enjoys reading stories to groups in the Sanford Memorial Hale. We host another activity using potted

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Layout Editor, U‘i Naho‘olewa

School Groups at MNBG... continued

kalo (taro) plants of many different varieties. Keiki color as they learn the Hawaiian names for each part of the kalo. A new activity developed by Ameri-corps volunteer Jessy Feister helps keiki notice differences between 'uala (sweet potato) varieties by making paper and crayon rubbings of different leaf shapes. Last, kids can take home a nine-page activity book to reinforce these ideas.

How did ancient Hawaiians make useful items from plants? Six different activities explore this question. Cordage making was important in constructing tools, houses, and canoes, netmaking, and much more. We show the entire process of stripping, soaking, and twisting hau fibers into cord. With help from volunteer Linda Tesar-Amimoto, we have perfected how to make a nice loud sound from an 'oe'oe whistle, made out of kamani nut. This summer, volunteer Becky Lau put together a lauhala (hala leaf) weaving activity that shows kids how to make a simple bookmark and introduces them to this complicated art. For younger keiki, it's fun to pick up their own hala fruit "paintbrush" and use it to do a painting activity with handouts of coloring pages. At events, we host 'Ō'ō ihe, blunt tipped spear throwing at banana stalks, and will soon have other Makahiki games thanks to a grant from

Activities that Teach

Importance of Native Plants to Hawaiian Culture

- Ethnobotany Tour – also available on our audio wand tour
- Hawaiian Food Plants Tour
- Medicinal Plants Tour
- Love Magic Tour
- Storytelling
- Parts of a Kalo Plant Coloring Activity
- 'Uala Leaf Rubbings
- Exploring Our Hawaiian Garden Coloring Book

Activities that Teach

Hawaiian Crafts and Games

- Cordage Making
- 'Oe 'oe Making
- Lauhala Weaving
- Using Hala Brushes
- Available at annual events:
- 'Ō'ō ihe
- Coming soon: more Makahiki games

the Leiter Family Foundation.

Teachers also bring their classes to do their own activities and eat lunch in the shade. Some of the activities teachers led on their own in 2015 included photography and drawing, Little Fire Ant detection, studying the Mai'a (Banana) collection, studying the 'Uala (Sweet Potato) collection, and kapa making.

Our volunteers make this program possible. We are ready to train new volunteers to gather and prepare materials, and to lead activities. If you can lend a hand, please email us at info@mnbg.org.



Kamehameha 5th graders weaving lauhala bookmarks using a demonstration model made by Becky Lau.



Haleakalā Waldorf 5th graders making soap from 'ānapanapa leaves.

Save the Date

Saturday, April 30th, 9 AM to 5 PM: East Maui Taro Festival

Head to the Hāna Ballpark for a day of learning and celebration! The East Maui Taro Festival will feature an exceptional Farmers' Market, poi pounding demonstrations, arts and crafts, food booths, non-profit organizations sharing information, as well as beautiful Hawaiian music and hula! MNBG will have an information booth highlighting our resources and programs, and a large selection of Hawaiian kalo (taro) varieties.

Saturday, May 28th, 9 AM to 3 PM: Kapa Workshop

Join kapa makers, Lisa Schattenburg-Raymond & Lei Ishikawa, to learn about the cultivation and maintenance of wauke plants, harvesting techniques, and processing fibers to make cloth. Space is limited: Garden Members \$100, Guests \$125 (includes 1 yr. membership). Contact the Gardens to request a reservation.

Saturday, June 11th, 9 AM to 3 PM: Kapa Dye Making Workshop

Cultural practitioners, Lisa Schattenburg-Raymond & Lei Ishikawa, will educate participants about the many Hawaiian plants that produce natural dyes for kapa. Learn about different processing techniques and natural additives used to manipulate color. Space is limited: Garden Members \$100, Guests \$125 (includes 1 yr. membership). Contact the Gardens to request a reservation.

With Gratitude from Our Garden:

Anna Mae Shishido for a new 10 cubic ft. wheelbarrow, Diane Carr for gardening pruners, Alaka'i Paleka for volunteer snacks and cone cups, Paul Kaster & Phyllis Sato for 24 clipboards, Maggie Sniffen for plastic utensils, plates and boats, Noella Martin-Murdoch for hoes, 'ō'ō, rakes, shovels, sickles, loppers, and saws, Connie Luk for 5-gallon buckets, Jeff Gray for dump truck services, Maui EKO Systems for mulch materials, Malafu Contractors for mulch materials, All Kine Electric & Ka 'Ohana Rowland for labor and equipment donation towards a new electric line to MNBG's hula pā, and Grow Some Good Educational School Gardens on Maui for loaning garden tools to help us host at Hawaii Permanente's Annual Day of Service on Martin Luther King Day.

MNBG Community Contributions:

Association of Hawaiian Civic Clubs (wauke, niu, 'ānapanapa), Kula Elementary School (assorted coastal native plants), Kaho'olawe Island Reserve Commission (assorted coastal native plants), Pā'ia Elementary School ('ulu and niu for maka-hiki offerings), Kanahā Beach Park (hala), Hālau Pā'ū o Hi'iaka (assorted coastal native plants), Kā'anapali Beach Hotel Hawaiian Garden ('uala slips), Ha'iku Elementary School (ko'oko'olau, 'ohai, 'ala 'ala wai nui), Kamali'i Elementary School (māmaki), Lahainaluna High School Agriculture Program (māmaki, naupaka, 'āweoweo, 'ihi, 'ala 'ala wai nui, nehe, ko'oko'olau, 'ae'ae), and Maui County Park (pā'ū o hi'iaka).

Mahalo to our Interns & Volunteers:

Leimana Pu'u, Karley Keanini, Ashlee Sawai, Jessica Feister, Andy DeMichele, Mary Grace Dinong, Ruby Ayers, Cathy Yago, Kristiann & Kristine Miguel, Mika Uyeno, Keiki O Ka 'Āina and Pauahi Keiki Scholars volunteers, Baldwin High School Key Club, Maui High School ECO Club, Seabury Hall Winterim Volunteers, and Hawai'i Permanente Medical Group – for 167 volunteers on MLK day.

Wish List

- Colored pencils sets for visiting students to use for activities
 - 20x or 30x Magnifying loupes (hand lenses) for students to use to view plants on tours
 - Clean 5-gallon plastic utility buckets
 - Garden gloves (all sizes)
 - Rakes (leaf or landscaping)
 - Medium sized picks
 - Sickles
 - Hand pruners (clippers)
 - Outdoor tables & chairs
 - Hawaiian Miles (for interisland travel to conferences)
 - Handicapable gardening tools: for ideas, visit <http://disabilityworktools.com>
- *If you would like to contribute to the purchase of one or more of these items please call 808-249-2798.*



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.



Give Online! Make a donation, pledge or renew your membership by visiting www.mnbg.org and clicking on "make a donation".

Garden News

167 Volunteers in One Day

On January 18 (Martin Luther King Day), Hawai'i Permanente Medical Group held their Annual Day of Service at MNBG and at least 167 volunteers participated. We could not believe how much they accomplished in such a short time! Under the leadership of MNBG staff and volunteers, the physicians and medical personnel split into four groups and completely transformed the Garden. Tamara led volunteers in removing and repurposing three large cement slabs and created a new planting bed for our 'uala (sweet potato) collection. Namea and Chris rallied their group to transport and dig in horse manure to the raised beds, and replanted the entire kalo (taro) collection in order by family. Bruce and Kauai led a group in dead-heading, weeding, and mulching the entire kō (sugarcane) collection, more than 6,000 square feet. Last, Weed and Pot Club volunteers Janet Allan, Paul Kastner, Renee Leiter, Gloria Adlawan, Connie Luk, Becky Lau, and Linda Tesar-Amimoto taught 60 Hawai'i Permanente folks how to prepare kamani nuts, lauhala, and tī leaves for future school group activities. Mahalo nui loa to the fantastic people at Hawai'i Permanente Medical Group for an awesome day.



Hawai'i Permanente Medical Group volunteers do stretches before they get to work.



Nama sandwicensis appearing at the dwarf naupaka site.

Dwarf Naupaka Population Surviving Our Care

The Weed and Pot Club and Native Hawaiian Plant Society have made four trips since October to the last significant wild population of our logo plant, *Scaevola coriacea*, under the direction of the Plant Extinction Prevention Program. Volunteers have been working to cut and bag seeds of the invasive shrubs haole koa and Christmas berry, and PEPP staff are working to remove other invasive weeds. On our most recent trip, we noticed a new native species growing in the cleared areas, *Nama sandwicensis*. This endemic annual, classified as vulnerable, is only found on sandy coastal areas in Hawai'i and is so small it is easily overlooked. We were excited to see the appearance of this species at the site.

Seed Storage Equipment Progress

We've gotten closer to our goal of having a working seed storage lab with the purchase of a refrigerator, hygrometer, desiccating cabinet and stereo microscope which have been installed in their new office space. Chris d'Avella, our Plant Collections Manager, has been learning the process and equipment with the goal that we can keep our most valuable native Hawaiian seeds alive for longer periods. The desiccating cabinet works in concert with the hygrometer to dry seeds down to a relative humidity that is appropriate for refrigeration or freezing. Drying seeds and storing them at cold temperatures slows the aging process they would undergo in field conditions. The microscope is helpful in determining whether seeds in a lot are damaged, immature, or otherwise have issues for which we need to be aware before starting the process of testing for viability and storing. This is a labor intensive and complicated skill for us to learn, but our team is up to the challenge.



Grounds and Maintenance Assistant Kaulana Puu trying out the new seed lab microscope.

An Evening in the Gardens at



Saturday, **APRIL 23, 2016** from **5-9 PM**
150 Kanaloa Avenue, Kahului, Maui (across from the War Memorial Stadium)

Enjoy award-winning entertainment by Keauhou, hula, silent auction, cocktails made with our own fresh Hawaiian sugarcane, and dinner prepared by Chef and Hawaiian cultural practitioner, Kealoha Domingo. 21 and over only, please. Tickets are available online at www.mnbg.org.
\$100 per person •
Table of 8 for \$750.

MO'OLELO O KA LA'AU *Stories of the Plants*

Join us for a beautiful evening celebrating the stories of Native Hawaiian plants. All proceeds benefit the conservation and educational programs of Maui Nui Botanical Gardens, a non-profit 501(c)3 organization.



Garden News



Arbor Day 2015 Event Review

On Saturday, November 7, we held our 12th annual Arbor Day Celebration at the Gardens and gave away 1,100 native trees to the public! An anonymous donor made free Hawaiian arts and games available at this event. Free cultural activities included makahiki games, kapa making, 'ohe kapala, lei making, hala weaving, and oeo (whistle) making. They were a huge hit! We wish to thank those of you who came to this event and went home to plant a tree to beautify Maui. We so ap-

preciate our sponsors and partners, Maui Electric Company, the Kaulunani Program of the DLNR Division of Forestry and Wildlife and the USDA Forest Service, County of Maui Office of Economic Development, and County Department of Parks and Recreation. Mahalo to our fabulous volunteers and board members; you are the backbone of all our efforts. We hope to see you at next year's Arbor Day celebration set for Saturday, November 5th, 2016.



'A'ali'i Tree Update

It is with great sadness that we say aloha to this stately 'a'ali'i planted by Rene Sylva which received the National Champion Tree designation from the National Register of Big Trees in 2012. The tree fell and could not be saved; however a seedling from that very tree was grown and replanted by Plant Collections Manager Chris d'Avella, and former employee Alex Quintana has reclaimed the wood to make some moa pahe'e or 'o'o for MNBG.



Puhala

After visiting the lauhala exhibit at the MACC, 5th graders came to MNBG to learn more about the hala tree. This photo shows hala (*Pandanus tectorius*) fruit and flowers, clockwise from left: hīnano (male flower); female flower developing into fruit head; 'āhui hala (ripening fruit head composed of many drupes); 'āhui hala (ripe yellow fruit head); hala (individual keys or phalanges) aging towards dry state with fibrous "brushes" at ends, after the i'o hala (starchy flesh) disintegrates.

Volunteer Central



Maui County Council Member, Mike Victorino, with long time MNBG volunteers, Gloria & Paul, at the 2015 Arbor Day Celebration.



MNBG's Weed & Pot Club volunteering at the Waihe'e Coastal Dunes & Wetlands Refuge with James Crowe and the Hawaiian Islands Land Trust.



Ryan & Julie volunteered with MNBG's Weed & Pot Club this Winter as part of the Keiki O Ka 'Aina Family Learning Center Program.



Kaunoa Civic Adventures volunteered in the Gardens in March 2016.



Hawaii Permanente volunteers prepare ti leaves for lei making.



The Weed & Pot Club loves Weeding, Potting, and Eating!



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

Anna Mae Shishido
Becky Lau
Cindy Singer
Connie Luk
Darryl Amaral
Diane Carr

Gloria Adlawan
Janet Allan
Jennifer Rose
Linda Tesar-Amimoto
Mālie Unabia-Verkerke
Mikki Clark

Maggie Sniffen
Paul Kastner
Perrisa Kilmer
Phyllis Sato
Raymond Higashi
Renee Leiter

Robert Pitts
Robin Yamashita
Tom Takeuchi
Vilma Seiler

Check Out What's Blooming!

Pōpolo

Solanum nelsonii

Endemic, Endangered

In old Hawai'i, the young shoots and leaves of some species of pōpolo were eaten as greens. A green dye can be made from the leaves, and pōpolo berries produce a deep purple to black dye. The largest remaining population of this coastal species is found on the dunes of Western Moloka'i.



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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
Maui Nui Botanical
Gardens on Facebook!

Receive updates on upcoming events, volunteer opportunities, and learn more about Hawai'i's unique plants within 'MNBG's Hawaiian plant of the day' photo album!

www.facebook.com/mauinuibotanicalgardens

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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 at : www.mnbg.org

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Patricia Avery
Charlie Lamoureux
Mary Cameron Sanford

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



MAUI NUI BOTANICAL GARDENS

P.O. Box 6040

Kahului, HI 96733

Visit us on the web at: www.mnbg.org



*An Evening
in the
Gardens*
at MAUI NUI
BOTANICAL
GARDENS

Saturday,
APRIL 23, 2016
from 5-9 PM
150 Kanaloa Avenue,
Kahului, Maui

Join us for an enchanting *Evening in the Gardens*, a fundraiser to support the conservation of native and Hawaiian heritage plants. Hawaiian music, hula, silent auction, cocktails, and dinner prepared by chef and Hawaiian cultural practitioner, Kealoha Domingo.

For tickets and information, visit us at www.mnbg.org

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.