



# Small Kine News

{Previous newsletters are located on our website} May 2018

## Upcoming Events

**Northwest Folklife**  
May 25-28

**Kalama Heritage Festival**  
June 29- July 1

**Olympia Lakefair**  
July 11-15

**Live Aloha**  
September

**Makahiki Aloha Week Festival**  
September 15

**Samoan festival**

**Hula and ukulele workshops**

## May Day is Lei Day in Hawaii

On the mainland people often think of may poles and girls with flower crowns when they hear May Day. However in Hawaii, May Day is Lei Day and the start of the season of celebrations and the tradition of giving lei (Hawaiian language doesn't have plural so the proper term for multiple "leis" is lei).

Starting in the 1920's Lei Day, May 1<sup>st</sup>, became a holiday in Hawaii where people celebrated the culture surrounding lei making and wearing. Competitions are held to show off the talents and creativity of lei makers in their weaving style and use of flowers, feathers, seeds, shells, and greenery. Music performances, workshops, parades, and hula performances are scheduled throughout the Hawaiian islands.



Schools put on a May Day celebration, where each class performs a hula or song and students are honored when chosen as May Day King and Queen and Princes and Princesses that represent the different islands.

Each island has its own flower and color that the royal court is adorned with in the appropriate lei. In case you're wondering, Big Island is lehua/red, Maui lokelani/pink, O'ahu 'ilima/yellow, Moloka'i kukui/green, Lana'i kaun'oa/orange, Kaho'olawe hinahina/grey, Kaua'i mokihana/purple, Ni'ihau pupu shell/white.



## CULTURAL WORD OF THE DAY

**Mother - English**

**A person that has many roles and provides care and unity to your family**

**Makuahine- (mah-koo-ah-he-nay) Hawaiian**

**Tina- (tee-nah) Samoan**

**Inay- (ee-nay) Tagalog**

**Whaea- (figh-A-ah)**

**Maori**

\*\*We do our best to find the most accurate word and pronunciation for our cultural words of the day. If you know of a better definition or phonetic spelling, please let us know!

Lei Day has become a cultural holiday celebrating the spirit of aloha. During these festivities speakers and workshop leaders share their knowledge of crafting a lei and the correct technique of designing a lei for specific occasions, like in the past, maile was used in peace agreements or the 'ilima flower was only worn by royals. Lei have become known as a symbol of Hawaii through tourism as a welcoming of visitors, however it is also used in special occasions for birthdays, weddings, and recognizing special guests at events.

May is also the start of graduation season where any student in Hawaii knows it's a right of passage to be decked out with lei over their head. Families often carry around signs with pictures of their student or name so that people can find the graduate and congratulate them and add their lei.



At graduation you can find many different contemporary styles of lei. This includes, but isn't limited to; origami lei made out of folded paper or money, candy lei made out of plastic wrapping and candy, and yarn and ribbon lei knitted or woven to look like flowers or greenery. Regardless of the occasion, anyone who has received a lei knows how special it feels to wear one, especially if it is made with aloha. *If you know someone graduating this year and would like to give them a lei, the Pacific 'Ohana Foundation is selling fresh orchid lei, money, ribbon, and yarn lei. Please email [pacificohanafoundation@yahoo.com](mailto:pacificohanafoundation@yahoo.com) to place your order today!*



## Contact Information

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## Hawaii's news



If you've been keeping up with news about Hawaii you have probably heard that Kīlauea, the Big Island's most active volcano, has had some very exciting activity recently. Kīlauea has actively been erupting for the past 35 years and in the past decade it has maintained its flow out of residential areas and within Halema'uma'u crater (located within the Volcano National Park boundary).

On May 3<sup>rd</sup>, lava fissures opened up in a residential area located farther east than it normally has been. Since then over 2240 acres and over 100 structures have been covered in lava or cut off from access and unfortunately many families have been evacuated and displaced for the time being. Some people have felt upset or worried about these current events or even tried to come up with solutions to stop or redirect the lava flow, yet for the people on Hawaii, it's just something that they must accept and wait out because of their respect for Pele.



Pele, often called Tutu Pele or Madame Pele, is a well known character in Hawaiian mythology as the goddess of fire and lava that lives in Halema'uma'u

crater on the Big Island of Hawaii. There are also some families that speak of Pele as though she is their *kupuna* (honored elder) or *'aumakua* (family god) and that generations of their family can be traced back to her.

Pele is known in most *mo'olele* (a story) to be beautiful, powerful, unpredictable, jealous, and hot headed. In one *mo'olelo*, Pele comes across a handsome man named 'Ōhi'a working in a field. She attempts to seduce him but he remains unaffected by her. Eventually 'Ōhi'a's wife, Lehua, comes by with a meal for him. 'Ōhi'a's face lights up with love and admiration for Lehua which makes Pele furious. In a fit of rage Pele uses her power to turn 'Ōhi'a into a twisted tree. Heartbroken, Lehua weeps for her husband until the gods take pity on the lovers and turn Lehua into a flower on the 'Ōhi'a tree so that they are together again. This is why if you pick a Lehua blossom from an 'Ōhi'a tree the day soon turns misty as the lovers cry as they are separated.



What's important in any *mo'olelo* regarding the fire goddess is that while she may be quick to anger and destroy, she is also respected and a powerful being that can create opportunities for new land and beginnings.



For example, there has been a fungus sweeping the Hawaiian islands that affect 'Ōhi'a trees, killing them as they become infected. 'Ōhi'a trees are sacred to Hawaiian people and are also one of the first plants to succeed after a lava flow. So while it's tragic that so many people have lost their homes, they know that it was and still is Pele's land and when she's done cleaning, they can start over again.

**For more information visit:**

<https://www.theatlantic.com/science/archive/2018/05/how-to-look-at-hawaiiis-lava/559988/>

<https://www.nytimes.com/interactive/2018/05/12/us/kilauea-volcano-lava-leilani-estates-hawaii.html>

<https://www.theatlantic.com/science/archive/2018/05/madame-peles-grip-on-hawaii/560102/>

<https://www.volcanodiscovery.com/hawaii/kilauea/current-activity.html>

## Get Involved!

Volunteer opportunities are available now!

We are currently looking for community involved leaders who have experience with event planning, volunteer management, and fundraising efforts. Please email us if you would like to be a part of our planning committee.

## Appreciation Shout Out

**Vicki Nokleby** is our May volunteer of the month! She is the longest member of the Gig Harbor Halau Hula O Napualani location as she was the one who initiated the expansion site to reach the Pierce County hula-holics. She was commuting from Gig harbor to Seattle weekly and discovered that there other interested haumana in taking hula and 'ukulele so she found a place and students began to attend and six years later we are continuously growing the halau. Vicki has gone from beginner student to intermediate-advanced; trying out every class offered, crafts, making costumes, leis, floral adornments. She even traveled to Kauai for the World Hula Conference where she learned about plants & herbs for health. She exudes a quiet strength that helped her to train for the Hapa Hula Competition she participated in 2016.

Vicki is also a certified yoga instructor/practitioner and her gentle, loving, beautiful soul reflects her heart of love and aloha. She is the creative force that founded the Pineapple Jam Aloha Kids Camp. Camp was originally held on Raft Island where children enjoyed the immersion of aloha and the Pacific Islands preservation and immersion of the heritage into their lives.

Similarly, Vicki has totally embraced all things Hawaiian and Islander thoughts, ideas, storytelling, and crafts. What started off as something she and her daughter can do together, spread to include her husband. The entire family play ukulele and collectors of them; what started off as a two 'ukulele family is now a several choices added to their collection of musical instruments.

Vicki is constantly offering her kokua and available resources, graphics artwork, vendor displays, work shifts, aloha ambassadorship, and always does what she can, when she can, however she can, and has been willing and cheerful sponsors for many of our events. Vicki is loved and adored by all who meet her! She is not only a member of the halau, she is the Vice President of the Pacific 'Ohana Foundation, a wife and business partner of her husband's expanding and growing insurance company, Ethix Northwest, and a mother and grandmother. What an amazing and gifted volunteer!

We are blessed to have Vicki in our lives. We appreciate all you do, Vicki! A true wind beneath our wings and a breath of fresh air and a blessing to all she meets.



# The return of the Kalama Heritage Festival

Sharing the spirit of Hawaii and the Pacific Northwest

From then



Till now



**June 29-July 1**

246 Hendrickson Dr, Kalama WA 98625

For more information visit:

[www.pacificohanafoundation.org](http://www.pacificohanafoundation.org)



## Kalama Heritage Festival

June 29 - July 1  
Marine and Louis Rasmussen Parks

### Scheduled Performers



The Mākaha Sons



Brother Noland &  
5 PeAce BaNd



No Worriez



Mele'uhane



Honoring the canoe  
'Leimomiwainui'  
gifted to Zelma  
Kalama McCloud



Foster Kalama



Guava Jam



Harry D. Ballesteros

### Friday Evening

Concert with  
The Mākaha Sons\*

### Saturday

Lu'au Dinner, Show, and  
Concert with Brother Noland  
& 5 PeAce BaNd\*

### Saturday and Sunday

### Workshops:

Slack Key Guitar  
Hula  
'Ukulele  
Many More!!



Gilbert Brown



Cody &  
Daesha-Dee



Northwest Blend



Kaleo Titcomb

[www.pacificohanafoundation.org](http://www.pacificohanafoundation.org)  
253-514-8440



## Now Added to the Kalama Heritage Festival

June 29th - Friday Evening Concert With

# The Mākaha Sons



Accompanied By:

Guava Jam

Codi Music

Comedian Gilbert Brown

Enjoy: Arts, Crafts & Food Vendors

From: 5pm - 9:30pm

Tickets Available Online:

\$35 - Concert and food choice from Food Vendors

\$25 - Concert Only

[www.pacificohanafoundation.org](http://www.pacificohanafoundation.org) 253-514-8440



\*Additional Cost - Tickets Available Online