



Malama Learning Center Paints the Way to a Sustainable Future in Kapolei

Art & Aquaponics Symposium cultivates creativity with local artist, Solomon Enos

For Immediate Release

KAPOLEI (November 15, 2014) – Malama Learning Center today presented its first ever Art & Aquaponics Symposium at Kapolei High School. Designed to nurture creativity and cultivate curiosity for sustainability, the Symposium featured interactive presentations, fun workshops and hands-on demonstrations by teachers, local aquaponics experts and artists including Waianae-grown Solomon Enos.

“Fusing art, science and culture together like Malama Learning Center did today is what gets our keiki excited about sustainable living,” said Solomon Enos. “As children picked up their pens to work on the mural, one of several arts and science related projects at the Symposium, you could see that raw enthusiasm in their eyes.”

Students in elementary through high school, Hawai‘i public school teachers and members of the community participated in a full schedule of activities. Native Hawaiian artist and keynote speaker Solomon Enos kicked off the symposium by speaking about how art, science, math, technology, nature and culture can together inspire 21st century education. Keiki learned how to use recycled materials to create art and participated in a mural project led by Enos, the future focal point of a peace garden in Kapolei.

“At Malama Learning Center, we are always aiming to not only educate, but to inspire the community to live a healthy and sustainable lifestyle,” said Pauline Sato, executive and program director at Malama Learning Center. “Today’s Art & Aquaponics Symposium is an example of how using sustainability to bring together two seemingly unrelated fields creates deeper understanding and passion for making our world a more beautiful place, especially among keiki.”

The aquaponics activities showcased agriculture at home. Teachers shared lesson ideas on how to incorporate aquaponics in the classroom. Community members interacted with aquaponics experts from Mari’s Gardens, HappyPonics Farm, and the University of Hawaii and learned how the growing system can transform home gardens. Participants enjoyed a lunch with some produce provided by Grown in Ho’opili just down the road to keep the day local, sustainable and delicious for all.

Today’s Art & Aquaponics Symposium was made possible through the support of Grown in Ho’opili, DR Horton Schuler Division, Kapolei High School and Nā Lei Aloha Foundation. For more information on the Malama Learning Center and to learn about upcoming events, please visit: malamalearningcenter.org.

About Malama Learning Center

Malama Learning Center is a private non-profit organization focused on teaching and inspiring communities to create healthy living environments. MLC does this by bringing art, science, conservation, and culture together through education to promote sustainable living throughout Hawai'i. MLC largely serves West O'ahu communities and has developed a strong partnership with Kapolei High School since its inception.

Media Contacts:

Klara Crocco
Bennet Group Strategic Communications
(808) 265-3493
Email: Klara@bennetgroup.com

###