



**Hawaiian  
Electric**

## NEWS RELEASE



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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

### **Grants share Hawaiian Electric's acts of aloha for the environment**

**HONOLULU, April 29, 2017** – Today, Hawaiian Electric awarded a total of \$110,000 in environmentally related grants to three Hawai'i nonprofit organizations as part of the company's 125 Acts of Aloha commemorating its 125<sup>th</sup> anniversary and in celebration of Earth Month. The announcement and presentation of grants were made at Bishop Museum during the annual Grow Hawaiian Festival, which Hawaiian Electric has sponsored for the past decade.

Bishop Museum was awarded \$50,000 for educational enhancements to the Science Adventure Center. "Bishop Museum is honored to continue in partnership with Hawaiian Electric to further educate our community about how to coexist sustainably within a complex ecosystem in order to preserve Hawai'i's unique oceans, flora, fauna, and culture," said Linda Lee Ku'uleilani (Cissy) Farm, Interim President and Chief Executive Officer.

"With Hawaiian Electric's support, the Museum will add three new conservation-themed exhibits over the next year that will illuminate the importance of protecting Hawai'i's fragile environment and endemic species for the benefit of Hawai'i's next generation," Farm added.

Mālama Learning Center also was awarded a \$50,000 grant, accepted by Pauline Sato, executive director of the Kapolei-based nonprofit that draws upon art, science, conservation, and culture to promote sustainable living. Through the grant, Hawaiian Electric is the lead corporate sponsor of Ola Nā Kini, a native and edible forest planting program on the slopes of the southern Wai'anae mountains.

"The Ola Nā Kini project will expand and deepen our work to heal watersheds -- the lands and waters -- of the Honouliuli and Nānākuli regions of west O'ahu," said Sato. "We are elated to begin this journey with students and volunteers who will explore new techniques that will control erosion and bring native and edible plants back to the 'āina. Healthy watersheds benefit everyone, whether you are a resident or part of a business. Mahalo nui loa to Hawaiian Electric for giving us the opportunity to bring Ola Nā Kini to life." In mid-2017, Ola Nā Kini will break ground at selected regeneration sites on conservation and agricultural lands.

The Hawai'i Conservation Alliance Foundation (HCAF) received a \$10,000 grant for the 24<sup>th</sup> annual Hawai'i Conservation Conference, July 18-20, at the Hawai'i Convention Center. As the premier information-sharing event for more than 1,000 scientists, natural resource managers, cultural practitioners, students, and community members from Hawai'i and other Pacific Islands, the conference spotlights successful methods for addressing conservation challenges, inspires new approaches to tackling long-standing issues, and fosters cross-sector dialogue and partnerships.

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The 2017 conference theme, “*He Wa‘a, He Moku Mālama Honua* – Caring for our Island Earth” will tie into the worldwide voyage of Hōkūle‘a and Hikianalia, the Polynesian Voyaging Society’s sailing *wa‘a* or canoe, which return home this summer. The concept highlights the need to treat Hawai‘i’s biocultural resources as carefully as the limited provisions carried on a voyaging canoe.

“We are delighted by Hawaiian Electric’s continued sponsorship of the Hawai‘i Conservation Conference. Through their generous donation, the Hawai‘i Conservation Alliance is able to provide an effective forum for top conservation professionals to share recent strides made in addressing many of Hawaii’s most pressing conservation issues,” said Robert Masuda, HCAF Board Vice Chair.

### **About 125 Acts of Aloha**

On the occasion of its 125<sup>th</sup> anniversary in October 2016, Hawaiian Electric announced it will give back to the community over the next year with 125 Acts of Aloha to benefit agencies and programs committed to building a more sustainable future for Hawai‘i. To date, Hawaiian Electric has contributed more than \$860,000 for programs and service projects focused in three key areas: education, especially in STEM (science, technology, engineering and mathematics); family and community advancement; and environmental stewardship. Additionally, about 1600 employees have volunteered nearly 5,000 hours of community service “acts of aloha.”

### **About Hawaiian Electric**

For 125 years, Hawaiian Electric has provided the energy that has fueled Hawai‘i’s development from a Hawaiian kingdom to a modern state. Hawaiian Electric and its subsidiaries, Maui Electric and Hawai‘i Electric Light, serve 95 percent of Hawai‘i’s 1.4 million residents on the islands of O‘ahu, Maui, Hawai‘i Island, Lāna‘i and Moloka‘i. Hawaiian Electric is committed to empowering its customers and communities with affordable, reliable, clean energy and achieving a 100% renewable energy future for Hawai‘i.

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