

Modified Program Due to COVID-19

May 25, 2020

Covid-19, the novel coronavirus, has unexpectedly disrupted virtually every aspect of our lives. It should not be the end of our teaching and learning, however. It is the time to explore new opportunities for student engagement! With the relaxing of shelter-in-place restrictions, Mālama Learning Center plans to conduct its 8th annual Mālama 'Āina Field School (Field School) under a new structure that would adhere to health and safety concerns -- and we invite you to join us!

Rather than gathering all students together, which we love but cannot imagine doing this summer, we will provide a <u>hybrid enrichment program that will offer on-line learning + hands-on activities at home + outdoor activities in the field</u>. The program will be shortened to two weeks and we will offer two similar sessions between June 22 - July 17. Students may attend <u>one session.*</u>

During on-line learning days (3 days a week), we will offer lessons that students can do at home as well as hands-on activities using supplies from an Aloha 'Āina Activity Kit. On huaka'i (field trip) days, we will invite groups of 5 students to come to selected field sites once a week. We will go to 2 different sites in West O'ahu, all screened for their safety to explore and do service work caring for the 'āina. Students are encouraged to come with their 'ohana to assist with transportation. However, if needed, student transportation can be arranged in advance.

We plan to have 'ohana do projects together as well as a virtual hō'ike, where we can all share what we've accomplished together in a safe way. If you are interested in attending this program, we ask that you <u>complete the online application</u> (one per student in current grades 7 to 10). More program details follow this introductory page. Please note that this plan is subject to change pending directives from local, state, and federal government officials. Flexibility is key!

The Mālama 'Āina Field School is a program of the Mālama Learning Center that is made possible by generous financial support from Kamehameha Schools Wai'anae Region and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration BWET Hawai'i Program. If you have any questions or concerns, please email us at info@malamalearningcenter.org.



*If space permits, students may repeat a session.

Unfortunately, we can no longer offer elective credit for this course.

Mālama 'Āina Field School SUMMER 2020

Background Information for Participants REVISED May 25, 2020

PURPOSE

The Mālama 'Āina Field School is designed to provide field-based activities linked to "inclass" learning that build skills for the 21st century that promote environmental and community health and resiliency. Essentially, we are building 'āina stewards! In the Summer 2020 modified program, the Field School will provide <u>enrichment for students and 'ohana</u>. As families are spending more time together, this is a good way to grow everyone's knowledge and appreciation for mālama 'āina together.

PRIORITY PARTICIPANTS

We welcome students <u>currently in grades 7 to 10</u> to apply. (Preference will be given to students living in the Wai'anae moku.) We will accept up to 20 students per session, which will be separated into smaller teams. On huaka'i, students may come alone or with a parent or guardian.

PROGRAM DATES (Choose One Session)

Papa 'Ekahi (Class One): June 22 – July 2, 2020 (with huaka'i on June 27*)
Papa 'Elua (Class Two): July 6 - July 17, 2020
Virtual Hō'ike and final optional huaka'i: July 20 & 21, 2020

PROGRAM HOURS

Online Learning Days - Monday, Wednesday, Friday - 8 am - 12 pm; (includes Kumu "office hours")

Huaka'i Days - Tuesday, Thursday, Saturday* - 8:00 am - 2:00 pm (each session will have only two huaka'i)

ACTIVITIES

Online Learning: Students will learn from lessons (e.g. slide presentations, videos, readings) and will answer questions (such as journal prompts) suitable for multiple grade levels using Google docs. They will also make vlogs (video logs). Guest speakers who work as mālama 'āina professionals from various agencies and organizations will join the sessions.

- Huaka'i: We plan to visit and work in: Pālehua forest restoration and archaeological sites, Mālama Learning Center's mauka native plant nursery and Ka'ala Farm (dryland forest kipuka, lo'i, and archaeological sites). (Sites pending confirmation.) An optional 'ohana hike overlooking Nānākuli Valley from a trail not open to the public will be offered as a final huaka'i.
- Aloha 'Āina Activity Kit: In addition to online and in-field learning, we will also
 offer 'ohana activities that can be done at home or on self-guided huaka'i. Each
 student will receive a box containing an Aloha 'Āina Packet full of fun activities as
 well as <u>useful supplies that they can keep!</u> There will even be a "scavenger hunt"
 that can be done with 'ohana!
- Projects: Students will be guided on a sustainability project that can give them a
 head-start for the next school year. Projects should benefit 'ohana and/or
 community such as building a native, food, or healing garden; teaching
 composting workshops for neighbors; sharing hand-made crafts with the
 community, or creating an 'ĀinaPreneur business concept!
- **Hō'ike:** A culminating hō'ike is always a highlight of the Field School. We will conduct a virtual hō'ike online with students sharing their vlogs and projects.

Students who attend all sessions within the 2-week program and complete all assignments will receive a Mālama 'Āina Field School – Wai'anae Moku T-shirt and custom Mālama Learning Center insulated flask!

TRANSPORTATION

To practice safe physical distancing, we encourage students to come to huaka'i with their parent or guardian. However, students without access to transportation can be picked up from designated pick-up and drop-off sites. This will need to be pre-arranged.

MEALS

Students and 'ohana will be responsible for their own meals. Please eat breakfast before coming to the huaka'i and pack a healthy lunch. Pre-packaged snacks will be available at the huaka'i.

WHAT TO BRING ON HUAKA'I

All participants, including 'ohana members, must bring/wear: covered shoes, long pants, rain gear (if it looks like it will rain), sunscreen, hat, sunglasses, face masks, and a refillable water bottle with large mouth opening. All participants will receive a pair of

gardening gloves to keep. Participants will be encouraged to bring a digital camera or phone for taking pictures and recording videos.

PROGRAM FEE

The program fee of \$25 will be due after acceptance into this program. Scholarships for those in financial need are available. Please complete the scholarship form, if desired. The fee will be refunded if the program cannot be conducted due to safety regulations. Additionally, refunds will be given to students who meet all expectations of the program after it has concluded.

APPLICATION

Students in the range of 7th to 10th grade are required to complete a separate <u>online</u> <u>application</u>. The <u>application deadline is June 12, 2020</u> (or until the program is filled). We will accept qualified applications as they come in so it's best to apply early.

ORIENTATION

Students and 'ohana will be required to attend a mandatory online orientation meeting (date to be determined) before the start of the program for an overview of the schedule and participant expectations, and to answer any questions.

EXPECTATIONS

Students are asked to treat this program as a formal learning experience with expectations of prompt and prepared attendance, completion of activities to the best of their abilities, timely communication, and compliance with all rules. Additionally, students and 'ohana will be expected to participate in program evaluation, which includes pre/post surveys and interviews. Students will receive a guidebook that will explain all expectations and provide activities that the 'ohana can work on together during the two-week session.

HEALTH PRECAUTIONS

The following are some of the key health precautions in light of the COVID-19 epidemic. Everyone's participation in following the rules will be key to preventing illness.

- We will not allow participants to attend if they are showing any signs of sickness (e.g., fever, cough, runny nose, nausea).
- Field School staff will conduct a temperature check of all participants every morning. Any people with a fever will not be allowed to participate in the activity.
- There will be no more than 5 students per group led by a kumu.

- Huaka'i groups will be kept to a maximum 10 students plus kumu and Mālama Learning Center staff.
- We will only visit approved/open sites that follow safety protocols.
- We will practice physical distancing, with each person outside of an 'ohana staying at least 6 ft. apart from one another.
- Face masks will be worn at all times unless working outside.
- Participants will wash gloves, clothing, and face masks with soap and water before wearing again.
- Mālama Learning Center will clean and sanitize tools after every use.
- Mālama Learning Center will provide soap, water, hand sanitizer, first aid kits, and drinking water in a jug at huaka'i.
- Mālama Learning Center reserves the right to cancel any and all parts of this
 program at any time to safeguard the health and safety of all participants, staff,
 and community partners.

FIELD SCHOOL TEAM

The Field School team will consist of veteran Mālama Learning Center staff and Wai'anae-based teachers who have worked closely together for years to conduct the Field School and other programs. We're looking forward to another amazing summer that will open new doors to learning and long-term relationships!

REGISTER TODAY!

https://bit.ly/2W590Z4





Established in 2004, Mālama Learning Center is a non-profit organization that teaches and inspires communities to live and work in a healthy, sustainable way.

www.malamalearningcenter.org