

2022 | WINTER/SPRING
ISSUE NUMBER 216

Kilo iā

Membership Publication of the Friends of the Waikīkī Aquarium

***New Limu from the
Coral-Reef Twilight
Zone Receive Hawaiian
Species Names***

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RECENT MEMBER EVENTS

Kilo i'a

Issue Number 216

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MANA'O

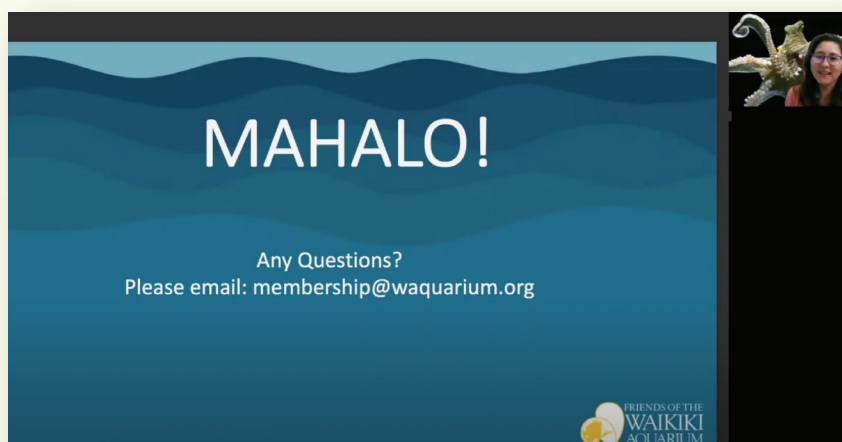
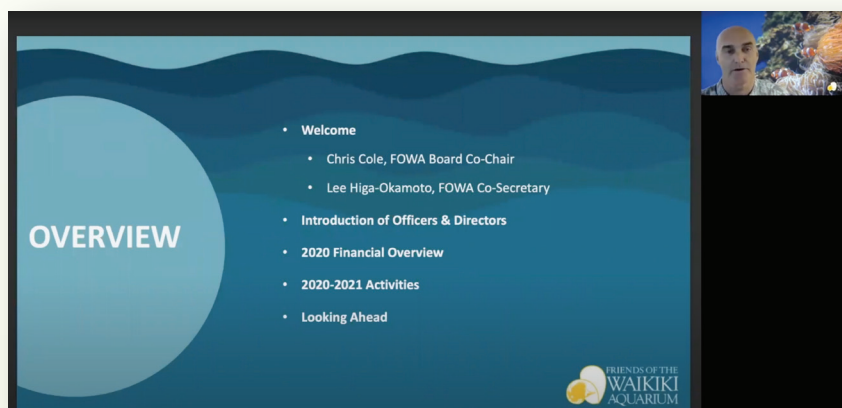
Traditionally, the kilo i'a was an expert of fish and marine life. He studied the behaviors and movements of i'a. The kilo stood at a high point of land overlooking the ocean to watch for an expected school of fish and steered the fishermen in the school's direction. The success of surrounding the school was entirely up to the kilo.

FOWA ANNUAL MEETING 2021

Members joined us on Tuesday, November 30 for a Virtual Annual Meeting. FOWA Board Co-Chair Christopher Cole, and Secretary Lee Higa-Okamoto, provided members with an introduction to FOWA officers and directors, a financial overview, recap of activities in 2020-2021 and what's ahead for the organization.

If you missed it, the recording is available on our website;
www.fowaquarium.org/2021-annual-meeting/

Should you have any questions, a contact form is also available on the website.



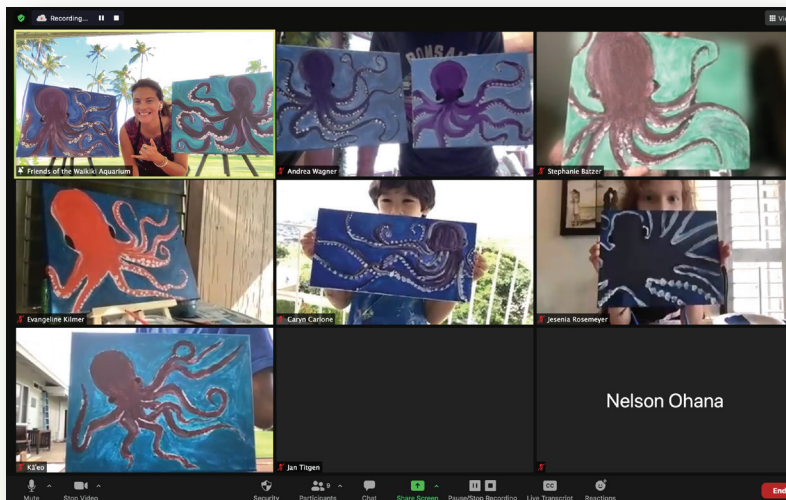
MEMBERS' NIGHT 2021

The Friends of the Waikī Aquarium celebrated our members' night. Members joined us virtually on Wednesday, December 22 for a free virtual painting event. Local painter, Gwenaelle Devaux, taught attendees how to paint one of our favorite ocean creatures, the octopus.

We are so grateful for our members, YOU, who have gotten us through such a challenging time. It is because of your support and generosity that the Aquarium remains open to keiki and their families.

If you weren't able to attend our Members' Night, a recording is available on our website along with a list of supplies you'll need to complete the artwork.

Visit fowaquarium.org/2021-members-night/ to view the full recording.



ABOUT THE ARTIST, GWENAELLE DEVAUX

Gwenaelle is the owner and artist of Paint For Your Soul. Born in Fiji and raised in Hawai'i, she is an island girl at heart. She is inspired by Hawai'i's natural beauty and strives to share her inspiration with others to bring out their inner artist. She believes that with guidance it can have many benefits such as stress and therapeutic relief, technique refinement, and advancement of the arts.

Paint For Your Soul is a unique painting company that originated on the North Shore of O'ahu. They are a fully mobile art studio that can bring the art to you and your venue. Whether you're looking for assistance with art therapy, educational keiki painting programs, team building, private parties, or small private sessions, they offer a variety of options for your needs. They are now offering online painting tutorials and paint kits available for pick up or delivery.

For details, visit paintforyoursoul.com.



NEW LIMU FROM THE CORAL-REEF TWILIGHT ZONE RECEIVE HAWAIIAN SPECIES NAMES

By Randall Kosaki, Ph.D., Research Ecologist, NOAA Papahānaumokuākea Marine National Monument

An algal-dominated deep reef at Manawai (Pearl and Hermes Atoll), 200 ft.
Photo credit: Greg McFall, NOAA.

NOAA scientists, using technical diving, have been probing the deep coral reefs of the Papahānaumokuākea Marine National Monument (PMNM), returning with a plethora of undescribed species that are completely new to science. Too deep for conventional scuba, these so-called mesophotic coral ecosystems, at depths ranging from 150-300+ feet, are better known as the “coral-reef twilight zone.” Here, the sunlight fades into darkness while temperatures grow cooler with increasing depth. The deep reefs of PMNM are known for high cover by numerous species of macroalgae, many of which have never been seen or collected before.

Many of these new species are receiving Hawaiian names, not just as common names, but also as their formal scientific species epithets. These names will be the formal scientific names assigned to these species in perpetuity. University of Hawai‘i researcher Dr. Alison Sherwood, and NOAA Papahānaumokuākea scientists have been engaging members of PMNM’s Native Hawaiian Cultural Working Group, the ‘Ewa Limu Project, and Native Hawaiian cultural practitioners to generate these names.

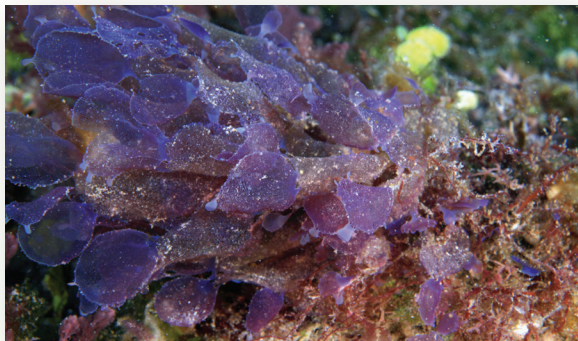
For example, *Psaromenia laulamaula*, a new species of red algae was discovered at 280-300 feet off Kapou (Lisianski Island). The species epithet, *laulamaula*, refers to the lau (leaf) of the lama tree (endemic Hawaiian ebony tree, *Diospyros sandwicensis*). ‘Ula (red) refers to the red or magenta color of lama’s young ovoid leaves. *P. laulamaula*’s blades are also oval and red in color. This species naming process, pairing the

new alga with a terrestrial counterpart, builds on a naming precedent from the Kumulipo (the best-known Hawaiian creation chant). In the Kumulipo, species are created in sibling pairs, with terrestrial and marine counterparts sharing physical characteristics and similar or identical names. In addition to similarities in color and shape, the lama tree and *P. laulamaula* also share ecological characteristics. The lama tree is found at elevations as high as 4,000 ft., while the laulama’ula alga is found at great depths (200-330+ feet). Ocean temperatures at the depths where *P. laulamaula* was collected were as low as 57° F, a far cry from the 72-80° F waters of shallow, tropical Hawaiian reefs! *P. laulamaula* is endemic to the Northwestern Hawaiian Islands (NWHI).



Psaromenia laulamaula, a new species of algae from 280-300 ft. at Kapou (Lisianski Island).
Photo credit: Randy Kosaki, NOAA.

A beautiful new species of iridescent lavender colored algae from PMNM, *Martensia lauhiekoeloa*, received its Hawaiian species epithet from a combination of three descriptive terms. Lau (literally, leaf) represents the leafy character of the blades. Hie (attractive, dignified, noble) refers to the distinguished appearance of this alga. Koelo (literally, to stream, flutter; to trail behind, as the train of a gown) represents the imagery of the alga being pushed by the current and resembling the elegant train of a holokū dress.



Martensia lauhiekoeloa, a new species of algae from the deep reefs of Papahānaumokuākea. The species epithet lauhiekoeloa refers to the beauty of the alga, and the way it flutters in the current like the long, flowing train on a holokū gown. Photo credit: Greg McFall, NOAA.

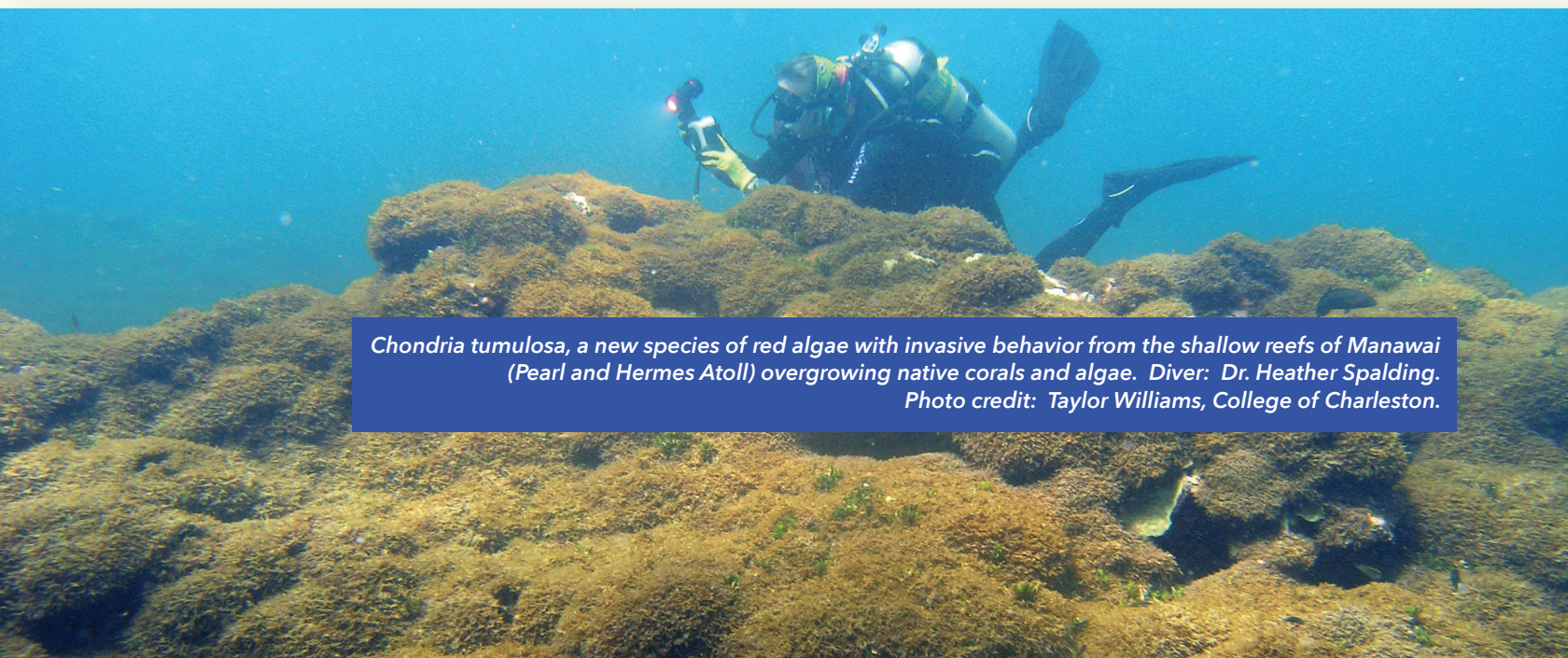
Another new species from PMNM in the genus *Martensia* was named *Martensia abbottiae* in honor of Dr. Isabella Abbott, the first Native Hawaiian woman to earn a Ph.D., and a globally recognized expert in algal taxonomy and ethnobotany. Dr. Abbott was a founding member of PMNM's Reserve Advisory Council, and named the NOAA research ship *Hi'ialakai*. The *Hi'ialakai* was the primary research platform that supported these and many more discoveries in the NWHI.



Martensia abbottiae, a new species of algae from Nihoa Island. Named after Dr. Isabella Abbott to recognize her enormous contributions to the field of phycology (the study of algae) in Hawai'i. Photo credit: Randy Kosaki, NOAA.

Recently, on the shallow reefs of Manawai (Pearl and Hermes Atoll), a new species of algae was discovered that represents a new challenge to the biodiversity of PMNM. *Chondria tumulosa*, a red alga, was only discovered in 2019 when it reached outbreak levels, overgrowing native algae and corals. The previously unidentified alga was found in thick mats of up to several thousand square meters each, smothering all benthic life beneath it. Native herbivorous fishes do not seem to feed on this species, and it remains unknown whether the new alga is a native species, or whether it represents an accidental or natural introduction from overseas. Two research cruises to PMNM focused on the causes and consequences of this outbreak, which is now one of the highest research priorities for PMNM.

Over 370 species of marine algae are now known from Papahānaumokuākea, and this number will continue to grow as exploration of the deep reefs of the NWHI results in more discoveries of species currently unknown to science. A significant proportion of the fishes and corals of PMNM are Hawaiian endemics, and it is likely that many of these new species of algae will also prove to be unique to this archipelago. Stay tuned for more research results from Papahānaumokuākea!



Chondria tumulosa, a new species of red algae with invasive behavior from the shallow reefs of Manawai (Pearl and Hermes Atoll) overgrowing native corals and algae. Diver: Dr. Heather Spalding. Photo credit: Taylor Williams, College of Charleston.

Fish Larvae

On October 12, 2020, Frank Baensch, founder of the Larval Fish Project, took a boat a mile off O'ahu towing a special net designed to collect tiny eggs and larvae from the top layer of the ocean. He caught a variety of teeny critters on that trip! It turned out that one of the eggs he caught was a rare find.

Two weeks after the egg hatched, Frank realized this was something he had never seen before. The fish grew long pelvic fins and developed brown bars on its fins and body. That's when he surmised it might be a cottonmouth jack (*Uraspis hevola*), an uncommon fish in Hawaiian waters.

Frank photographs and identifies the larval stages from many species of fish in an effort to learn about both their biology and how to raise fish from the egg or larval stages. He uses wild-caught eggs as a sustainable and cost-effective method to do his research on larval diversity without having to spawn fish in captivity.

It's estimated that larval stages have been described in less than 10% of fish species, and far fewer have been observed or photographed live. Frank often discovers fish larvae that previously have been described only from dead specimens, and in some cases have never been seen before. "So much remains to be discovered about these fascinating little animals," he exclaimed. "It's exciting!"

Understanding fish development is important because many of the challenges in aquaculture and fisheries management are directly related to the larval stage. The larvae's survival affects the abundance and distribution of adult fishes. However, fish larvae are difficult to study out in the open ocean.

The reason most marine fishes are not yet raised through aquaculture is because so little is known about their long and complicated larval phase. Frank started his Larval Fish Project to address this shortcoming and develop techniques to raise reef fish species. Over the years, the Aquarium has received many fish raised and photographed by him including the orangebar surgeonfish, spiny porcupinefish, thornback cowfish, and many others.

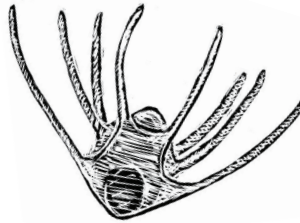


“Are You My Mother?”

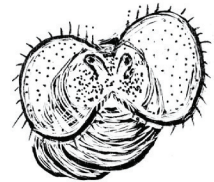
MATCHING GAME

Young larvae look so different from the adult animals they even have unique names. Can you identify which larvae goes with which adult?

ECHINOPLUTEUS



PLANULA



VELIGER

Cauliflower Coral

Sea Urchin

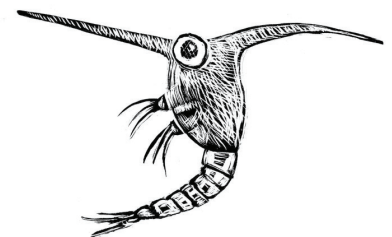
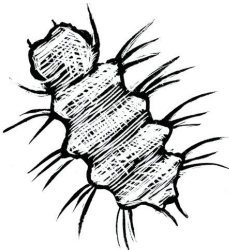
Tiger Cowry

Fireworm

Swimming Crab

ZOEA

TROCHOPHORE



Illustrated by Kirsten Carlson © 2017 Kirsten Carlson, www.fathomitstudios.com
Sponsored by Hawaii Institute of Marine Biology, MakerLab, <http://judylemus.com/maker-lab/>

ANSWERS: Tiger Cowry----Veliger, Cauliflower Coral----Planula, Sea Urchin----Echinopluteus, Fireworm----Trochophore, Swimming Crab----Zoea

FRIENDS OF THE WAIKĪKĪ AQUARIUM

////////// **ANNUAL REPORT 2020** //////////

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Brian Tepper

HECO (retired)

A Message from the Friends of the Waikīkī Aquarium

Aloha Friends,

We would be remiss if we didn't start off our message with a sincere thank you to our valued members. The last couple of years has been challenging on so many different levels. Due to the pandemic, the Waikīkī Aquarium closed for more than a year, our beloved Ke Kani O Ke Kai Concert series was cancelled, and many of our programs shifted to virtual platforms. And through it all, our members continued to support us, and for this, we are truly grateful.

FOWA's primary mission is to support the Waikīkī Aquarium and its mission. While the purpose of our funding is really to cover capital improvement projects and educational programs, we're proud we were able to support the Aquarium during the shutdown by providing \$445,000 to help with operational expenses. This is reflected in the summary of revenue and expenses for 2020.

Also of note:

- o The summary provided is for 18 months due to a change in FOWA's fiscal year to a calendar year.
- o 50 percent of membership dues (approx. \$30,000) went directly into the Aquarium's operating fund.
- o There is a category for Gift Shop, which will be removed from later reports, as its oversight was shifted from FOWA to the Aquarium in 2017.
- o We are operating at a deficit, primarily due to the loss of revenue streams caused by the pandemic and the unanticipated grant made to the Aquarium for operations.

Rest assured, we remain dedicated to supporting the Aquarium and our members. As the Aquarium works to rebuild its exhibits following the one-year closure, which understandably will take some time, we ask for your continued support and patience.

Thank you, again, for your ongoing support. Your passion for the Aquarium and its mission keeps us all swimming in the right direction.

Sincerely,



Chris Cole

Co-Chair, Friends of the Waikīkī Aquarium Board of Directors



Dirk Yoshizawa

Co-Chair, Friends of the Waikīkī Aquarium Board of Directors

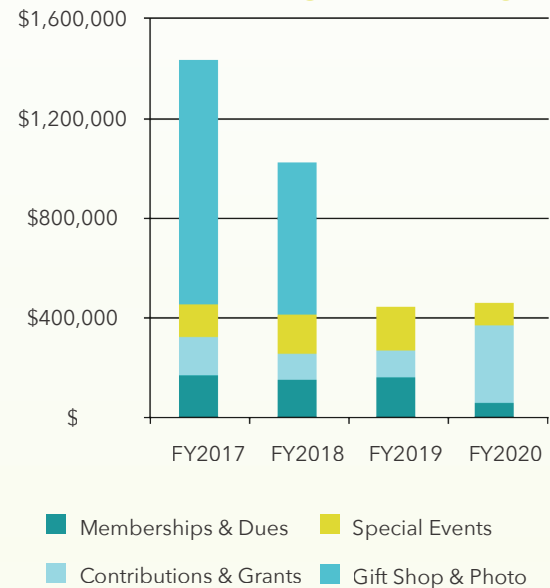
Looking Back

In addition to updates mentioned in the letter from our board, a few other key factors to consider are as follows:

- o FY2020 amounts represent an 18 month period ending on 12/31/20 due to the change in fiscal year end to calendar.
- o Special Events revenues decreased due to the cancellation of events including Ke Kani O Ke Kai
- o Contributions & Grants included \$33,000 received from C&C CARES Act Program and SBA PPP Loan, for which FOWA received full forgiveness.
- o Contributions & Grants also included generous donations from our members.

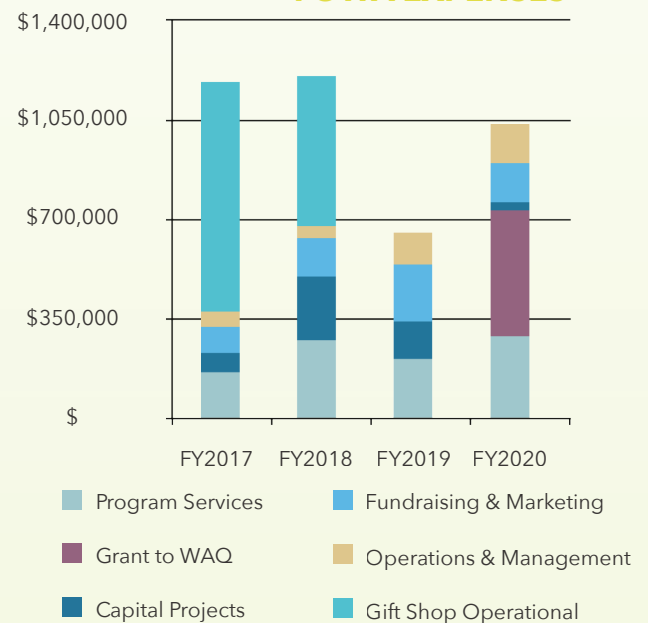
Revenue	FY2017	FY2018	FY2019	FY2020
Membership Dues	\$177,273	\$152,398	\$159,336	\$63,254
Contributions & Grants	\$136,155	\$108,599	\$115,639	\$308,867
Special Events	\$141,935	\$145,093	\$171,617	\$92,229
Gift Shop & Photos	\$982,415	\$518,772*	\$ -	\$ -
Total	\$1,437,778	\$1,024,862	\$446,592	\$464,341

FOWA REVENUE



Expenses	FY2017	FY2018	FY2019	FY2020
Program Services	\$170,187	\$268,997	\$209,362	\$285,373
Grant to WAQ	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$445,000
Capital Projects	\$60,968	\$222,304	\$136,703	\$22,340
Fundraising & Marketing	\$88,179	\$136,333	\$202,068	\$132,683
Operations & Management	\$45,704	\$43,160	\$100,433	\$146,829
Gift Shop Operational	\$818,990	\$533,319	\$ -	\$ -
Total	\$1,184,028	\$1,204,113	\$648,566	\$1,032,225

FOWA EXPENSES



NEW & RENEWING MEMBERS (March-December 2021)

Stuart Akagi	Richard Forensky	Camille Kanoa-Wong	Isaiah Naehu	Mr. & Mrs. Rod &
Roy Akamine	Michelle Fortin	Akemi & Ryuichi Kato	Julietta Nagamine	Denise Tamanaha
Alana Alch	Christian Freire	Stan & Stephanie Kato	Grant Nakahara	Mark Tamashiro
Kristen Alvarado	Debra Ann Fujitani	Kory Kawaguchi	Alicia & Neal Nakamitsu	Darin Tanaka
Noriko Amari	Tomohiro Fujitani	Morgan Kaya	Leatrice S. Nakashima	Rian & Lee-Ann Tatsutani
Mohamed Amiri	Bobby Fuke	Tracy Kazunaga	Reyn Nakayama	Natalie Tocco
Lynn Arashiro	Melvin & Sheena Garcia Jr.	Kristin Kear	Chance &	Kimberly Tokuhama
Shannon Armstrong	Vicki Garrett	Maureen & William	Heather Namahoe	Aaron & Nicole Tomatani
Tiare Arriesgado	Randy Garrison	Kilcoyne	Jennifer Neely	Nikie & Edric Torio
Horacio Arzate	Cheryl & Brian Gesik	Evangeline Kilmer	Risako & Mathew Ngo	Tahnee Towill
Masahiro Atsumi	Christopher Gibu	Marianne Klinkowski	Derek & Stacey Nishibata	Bobby Tran
Maryam Austin	Lynelle Gillia	Kim Koga	Edward Nishimura	Nozomi Tuthill
Samuel Bader	Christina Ginchereau	Kevin Komoto	Diana Nomura	Jeanne Tyan
Cordell Bailey	Katrina Givan	Elyse Kozuma	Douglas Odani	Secret Tynanes
Brandi Balutski	Sally Glenn	Amber Kubota	Joy Okano	Masahiro Uchida
Sarah Bauer	Elizabeth & Monty Glover	Romina Layug	John OMara	Cynthia & Jonathan Uejio
Brandy Bennett	Shannon Gorospe	Kineshia Leasau	Jan Omura	Jamie & Ryan Uesato
Garron Boggia	Craig & Carolyn Gorsuch	Catherine Lee	Robin Otsuka	Malia Ukishima
Addison Bonner	Linda Gray	Hee Jin Lee	Arkhe Pacis	Megan & Jesus Urrutia
Ashley Brown	Jason Gresham	Leland Lee	Han & Tania Park	Rianna Uyeda
Tara Buckley	David Grisham	Olivia Lee	Carol Parker	James Valdez
Antonio Bumanglag	Christopher Haines	Sheila Lee	Blythe & Bhawesh Patel	Ronald Vandro
Rose Burns	Mary & Donald Hallock	Russ LeMay	Vanessa Penny	Renee Wallrabenstein
Walli Ann Burton	Brandon Hamada	Shelley Lemerande	Constantine Peros	Yu-Jen & Shanese Wang
Chelsea Campbell	Erik Hamada	Steven & Anna Leonard	Tammie Perreira	Yuriko & Lawrence
Jenel Carmichael	Kaitlyn Hamilton	Daniel Leong	Jeffrey & Sarah Peterson	Warnken
Gabriela Carvalho	Kealakai Hammond &	Daniel & Emily Leung	Elissa Pickard	Mark Waterbury
Matthew Casamina	Louis Trujillo	Chuck & Helene Lileikis	Tommy Presley	Joseph Weismantel
Nolan Chan	Danny Han	Wendla Liljestrand	Lucinda & John Pyles	Jaime Wheeler
Jocelyn & Allison Chang	Edward & Pamela Han	Allan Lim	Daniela Quinlan	Melissa Wilkes
Jill Chapman	Rainer Hardtke	Marie Lim	Shawn Raniada	Maureen & Mark Williams
Jennifer & Eric Chen	Scott & Sara Hartwich	Michael Lim	Kevin Rebollo	Emma Wo
Zheng Chen	Daniel Hasegawa	Taekyoo & JinSook Lim	Dr. & Mrs. Keven Reed	Richard Wolensky
Atsushi Chida	Yuki Hasegawa	Joyce Lin	Kristen Reed	Kevin & Darla Won
Jaewon Choi	Brendon Hayashi	Ian Lind	Amanda Reed-Maldonado	Pookela Wood
Jocelyn Chong	Stephen Hazam	Mary Jane Loda	David Reid	Ben Wunderlich
Emily Christensen	Michael Helms	Makiko Loeb	Lisa & Mitchell Remba	Debbie Yamamoto
Stephanie Chun	Jenna Hernandez	Kristin Loo	Tor Rodrigues	Atsushi &
Joel & Laura Clark	Michael Higuchi	Bradford Lorange	Jennifer Rodriguez	Miwa Yanagisawa
Kimberly Clarkson	Taryn & Ryan Hinaga	Jany & David Loudon	Kimberly & Christian Ross	Amy Yeung &
Hoku Clements	Tomoko Hirahara	Yin Ming Lui	Jason Rudrud	James Miyasaka
John & John Coghlan	Neil Hirasuna	Teresa Lukowicz	Jennifer Ryan	Don & Judi Young
Teta Collins	Rollianne Ho	Colin Macdonald	Anthony & Helen Sabatini	Teresa Zetwick
Jessica Cook	Tomoko Hodnefield	Iain MacPherson	Ahmad & He Sadri	Shengri Zhang
Wayne Crutchfield	Shannon Honda	Jarryd Cole Maeda	Paul Sakamoto	Deborah Zysman &
Tomoka &	Anne & Steven Hong	Leslie & Dorothy Maeda	Nicolas Salvatore	Dan Gluck
Christopher Cubellis	Kacie & Keleka Ho'okano	Marisa Maguire	Diane Sanchez	
Laura Dalton	Prihartini Hopfer	Ruth & Keoni Maiwela	Jamie Sasaki-Febvay	
Ari Daum	Cheng-Ching Hsu	Lorie & Arnold Manzano	Tiara Satsuma	
Gloria & Gwen De Francia	Robert Hubbard	Amanda Marine	Robertalee & Mark Schanz	
Kaoru DeJesus	Kyle Hubik	Jason Martin	Mr. William Schriefer	
Valerie & Paolo Dela Cruz	Tim Huynh	Kailey Martin	Reina Setoguchi	
Richelle Dietz	Taryn & Lane Imai	Stephanie &	Leonard Shapiro	
Steven Dodd	Mika Inouye	Meluan Mateo	Brian Shevelenko	
Michael Dohm	Jean & Jay Ishida	Ann Matsumoto	Jennifer &	
Asia Dominci	Ella Isono	Richard &	Norman Shishido	
Billy Dorn	Bradley Itagaki	Joyce Matsumoto	Jess Shull	
Scott Dukart	Grant Ito	Christopher	Barry Siegel	
Sedona Dumyahn	Elizabeth Jacobe &	Matsunaga-Segi	William Siu	
Bradley Duvall	Michael Tulba	Kristen & Rene Matthyssen	Yuki Snelgrove	
Suzanne Eastman	Clint Jang	Jennifer Mazzanti	Joyce Haas Snider	
Ashley & Fred Edwards	Andrew Jenkins	Angela & Patrick McCarthy	Jillianne Sofio	
Blake Edwards	Masako Jimenez	Laurie McShane	Bronwen & Garrett Solyom	
William Ellis	Jimenez Family	Hillary Meariman	Jeremy Soriano	
Matthew Elmes	Raven Johnson	Michele Meeks	Peter & Chelsea Stams	
Jennie Elrod	Wendy Johnston	Michael Merrell	Scott Steiner	
Svitlana Elsbernd	Leeshaw Jones	Ansje Migotti	Tracy & Shuji Stevens	
Daniel Eng	Lincoln Jong	Michael Miura	Eric Story	
Terence &	Shana Joy	Noelle & Richie Miyagawa	Cristian Struta	
Kenwyn Enriques	Cynthia & John Juettner	Yuhei Miyake	Clayton Sugimoto	
Sarah Estrellado	Patti Kadohiro	Christian Mochizuki	Karhryn Summers	
M. Eleanor Fahrwald	Anthony Kahunahana	Ka Chun Mok	Christopher Suzuki	
Sarah Fernandezlopez	Kamuela Kalilikane	Erin Molina	Raymond & Carol Tabata	
Josefa Fifer	Helena & Jonathan Kam	Samantha Moorman	Mia Takahashi	
Monika Fifer-Velez	Ms. Sandra M. Kaneshiro	Paul & Barb Morgan	Derek Taketa	
Katherine Fisher	Shannon & Chad Kaneta	Husam Morrar	Marc & Kimberly Takeuchi	
Stephanie Flores	Adam & Mary Jo Kanis	Mark & Corinne Murashige	Edgar Talavera	

GIFT SHOP

WHAT'S NEW AT THE SHOP

Make a difference with your purchase at The Shop with our Live, Love, Protect charm bracelets (\$17.99). A portion of each sale goes directly to a charity for the ocean animal it represents. Visitors can choose from seahorses, whales, rays, turtles, manatees, starfish and more! Also new at The Shop is our brand new Love Pearl pendant! The heart shaped pendant cage comes with a real oyster shell that you crack open yourself to reveal a genuine pearl in 1 of 5 different colors! Which color will you get?



ADOPT-AN-ANIMAL

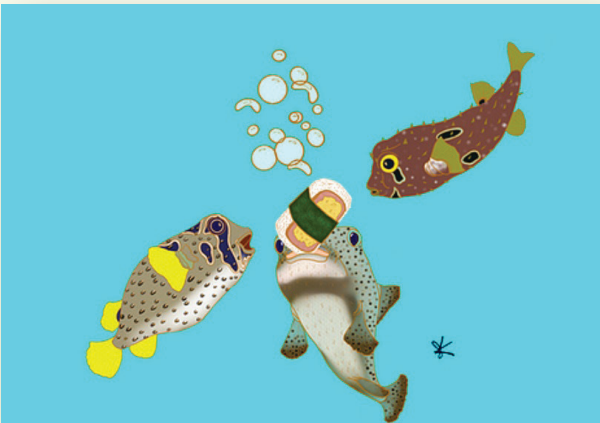
With the success of our Adopt-An-Animal packages in 2021, we are excited to announce it is continuing with all new ocean friends for 2022! All proceeds from Adopt-An-Animal directly support the Aquarium. Which animals are coming this year...? Stop by our 118th Anniversary on March 19th to find out! Supplies will be limited at first, more to come in 2022.



LOCAL FUN FISH PRINTS

You have to come down and see the whimsical and extremely fun fishy prints by Sean Kam. They're sure to delight with humor, local flavor, and eye grabbing color pop. These imaginative prints will brighten up any space and would make a wonderful gift for any quirky ocean lover. Where else will you find a print of puffers fighting over a musubi? Only at The Shop!

Supplies on Sean's art are limited so be sure to stop by soon!



AQUARIUM STAFF & VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHTS

Staff Spotlight: Kalene Rogers, *Live Exhibits*

My passion for marine life has led me to where I currently am as an Aquarist at the Waikīkī Aquarium. I graduated from the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa with a Bachelor's Degree in Marine Biology. During my time at UH, I was able to figure out what aspects I really enjoyed about the field. Although research was something we focused heavily on, I quickly realized that I was much more fascinated with the hands-on care of marine life. Volunteering at the Hawai'i Institute of Marine Biology

Kim Holland Shark Lab was my first position where I was able to be a caretaker for marine life. I knew I wanted to continue this into my future plans, and shortly after graduating, I became a part of the Waikīkī Aquarium 'Ohana.



My journey with the Waikīkī Aquarium started in February 2018 when I became an Aquarium Educator Volunteer and also assisted in special events. This was a great start because I wanted to help make a difference in the conservation of Pacific marine life and spread the Aquarium's mission. When I became an Aquarist Assistant Volunteer in August of 2019, I was excited to get experience working behind the scenes and maintaining exhibits. During COVID, I was asked to be a full time Aquarist. My responsibilities as an Aquarist include feeding the diverse collection of marine life, maintaining the cleanliness of different exhibits, and troubleshooting if any problems arise.

There is never a "boring" day at the Aquarium. One of my favorite parts of my job is feeding the animals, especially the pufferfish! Every time I feed both of our porcupine pufferfish in the Edge of the Reef exhibit, I interact with the guests and explain what I'm doing. Most of the guests have never seen this before so it is amazing to see their excitement and to be able to educate them more about marine life. We may not be the biggest aquarium, but I love all of the exhibits we have with their intricate and involved ecosystems!

CALL FOR VOLUNTEERS

The Waikīkī Aquarium is looking for new volunteers to join our passionate and dedicated 'ohana! There are many volunteer opportunities, each with their own experiences and requirements, to match your interest and skills.

Aquarium Educator Volunteers

Want to learn more about Hawai'i's marine life and share that knowledge with visitors from all over the world? Look no further and apply to become a Waikīkī Aquarium Educator Volunteer! Aquarium Educators model self-discovery and share the Aquarium's conservation ethic. They are prepared to guide guest interactions with teaching tools learned through an online training course and in-person training classes.

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic and the re-opening of the Aquarium, we need your help now more than ever. To view all of our volunteer opportunities and their requirements, please visit: <https://www.waikikiaquarium.org/support/volunteer/volunteer-opportunities>.

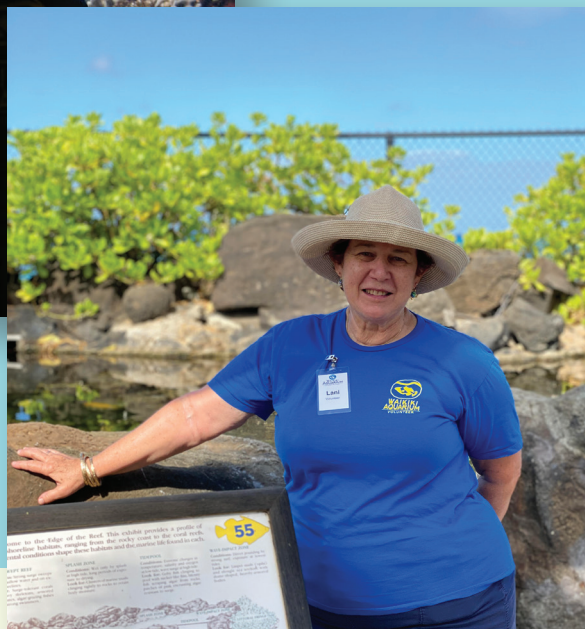
Volunteer Spotlight: Tina Nakasone

We are thrilled to shine the spotlight on Aquarium Volunteer Tina Nakasone!

For over a decade, Tina has dedicated over 2,000 hours of her time to help the Aquarium. From 2007-2020, she guided students grades K-6 on discovery tours through the Aquarium exhibits as a School Support Program Docent. In 2017, Tina joined our Live Exhibits team as an Aquarist Assistant Volunteer and has played a pivotal role ever since. During the Aquarium's closure due to COVID-19, Tina was essential to the continuous upkeep and care of the animals and exhibits.

Born and raised in Hawai'i, Tina feels a deep connection to our ocean environment. "Living in Hawai'i, the ocean is such a big part of our lives and it's important that we do what we can to protect it," said Tina. "I think giving people a chance to see ocean creatures up close makes them more likely to want to take care of them." Tina is happy to see people back in the Aquarium enjoying all the exhibits, especially those that showcase her favorite creatures, the seahorses.

We are so lucky to have volunteers like Tina who truly enhance the Aquarium experience and keep our animal exhibits clean. Mahalo to Tina Nakasone for helping create a welcoming atmosphere for guests to learn about the ocean and marine life!



FOWA BOARD SPOTLIGHT

Board Spotlight: Nancy Taylor

This issue we’re shining the spotlight on Nancy Taylor. Following a 35-year professional career including positions at Bank of Hawai’i and the East West Center, Nancy is semi-retired and enjoying the pursuit of artistic interests.

When asked why she joined the FOWA board nearly ten years ago, Taylor recalled the importance of taking meaningful steps toward protecting and enhancing the environment. “The Waikiki Aquarium through its educational programs as well as its research and community outreach efforts endeavor to raise awareness of the importance of how we live our daily lives. Each of us needs to be mindful of changes we can make every day in order to start to make a meaningful difference for our fragile ocean environment.”

One of Nancy’s favorite things about the Aquarium is that “it offers magical memories for so many of us who’ve raised our children in the islands.”

As for her favorite animal? “The jellyfish! I could watch them for hours.”



FOWA UPDATES

MAHALO TO OUR DONORS (March 1 –August 31, 2021)

Amazon Smile
Dr. & Mrs. Gardner Bemis - Minneapolis Foundation
Paula Carroll
Carol Ching
Eleanor Fahrenwald
Fidelity Charitable - Anonymous
Fidelity Charitable - William E. Remus Gift Fund
Sally Glenn
Hartline
Hawai’i Community Foundation – Steve & Gloria Gainsley
Hawai’i Community Foundation -
 Geoffrey & Lehua Michaelson Fund
Hawai’i Community Foundation - Robert Ryder Fund Grant

Hokulani Malia Fund - Ms. Estelle Kelley
Richard Klemm
Douglas Luther
Gary Miyamoto
Jamee Moorman
Audrey Mueh
Maryilyn Requena
John & Junie Sullivan: on behalf of
 Lindsey & McKibbin Mist
Janice Auyong Titigen
Marie Wagner

SEA WALL OF FAME

Donation from Honpa Hongwanji of Hawai'i Betsuin Buddhist Women's Association - lifelike honu model for educational purposes.



Mahalo to all who supported the Waikīkī Aquarium by enjoying a "Sand and Sea" donut from Purvé Donut Stop in July. From July 1-7, all proceeds from the limited-edition donut benefited the Aquarium totaling \$2,619.63.



In an effort to make a positive impact on the world, Girl Scout Troop 115 visited the Waikīkī Aquarium to remind the public about the importance of reducing litter and protecting our oceans. The girls have donated educational posters, books for the Aquarium's volunteer library, and beach cleanup supplies! Their posters are being displayed in the lobby of the Aquarium to encourage visitors from all over the world to join us in caring for the ocean and marine life. Visit the Waikīkī Aquarium to see their inspiring work today!





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