

## Promise to Children

November 4, 2013

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*We are the stewards and navigators of Hawai'i's educational community. We believe that the betterment of humanity is inherently possible, and we believe our schools, collectively, from early childhood education through advanced graduate studies, are a powerful force for good.*

*We support the educational mission of the Worldwide Voyage of Hōkūle'a and Hikianalia, knowing wholeheartedly the urgency we face in preparing our children to live, thrive, and lead our changing world toward goodness. This is the voyage of our lifetimes, and we are steadfast in our commitment to achieve a profound transformation in education.*

*We will transform our schools, empower youthful voices, and accept the responsibility of Mālama Honua. We believe that by inspiring children to explore, discover and learn about Island Earth, they will navigate the future of humanity toward vitality, renewal, and compassion.*

*Today, with images of the Mālama Hawai'i voyage fresh in our minds and strong in our spirits, we promise to create, sustain, and navigate a movement dedicated to future generations, one that is imbued with the goodness of Hōkūle'a and the wisdom born of her legacy.*

*Over the next 48 months, the Worldwide Voyage will sail 49,000 nautical miles, touch the shores of 26 countries, and make safe harbor in 85 ports, while sharing Hawai'i's gift of caring and kindness with the world.*

*And thus, we the undersigned, will participate in the Worldwide Voyage through our classrooms and educational advocacy, providing winds in the sails of Hōkūle'a and Hikianalia as they circumnavigate Island Earth.*

*The strength of our commitment is demonstrated in this partnership, unprecedented in Hawai'i's history. We are strengthened with the knowledge that by working together, we can and will reach our shared destination – a world worthy of our children.*

*We will teach and learn together and hope others will be inspired to join us.*

***If you plan for a year, plant kalo. If you plan for ten years, plant koa. If you plan for one hundred years, teach the children.***

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### **The University of Hawai'i**

*The University of Hawai'i is honored to be the higher education partner in this momentous and impactful Worldwide Voyage of Hōkūle'a and Hikianalia. Each of our 10 campuses across the state has active programs and projects in coordination with the Polynesian Voyaging Society, focusing on diverse curricula such as ethnomathematics and STEM learning, mobile science outreach, small vessel fabrication and repairs, and zoology and botany research and extension projects. Our medical school's Native Hawaiian Medicine Program is involved, as well as our UH Mānoa Institute of Marine Biology at Coconut Island and our College of Education, with its teacher training mission.*

*The nation's public universities, through education and research, are working toward solving the problems of today and tomorrow of feeding our population, providing sustainable forms of energy, and advancing health and saving lives. The research we perform over the next few years and the learning that takes place in partnership with the Polynesian Voyaging Society will further this important work.*

*The Worldwide Voyage of Hōkūle'a and Hikianalia is clearly part of the fabric of the University of Hawai'i in its mission of educating our future citizens, and we are grateful for the opportunity to participate in this inspirational journey.*

## **Hawai'i Department of Education**

He mokupuni ka honua- Earth is an Island

The Department of Education (DOE) and its public schools are honored to be an educational partner with the Polynesian Voyaging Society's Mālama Honua Worldwide Voyage of Hōkūle'a and Hikianalia. The philosophy of "Earth is an island" will echo the department's initiative to promote the voyage to our 183,000 K-12 students and 15,000 teachers.

The DOE recognizes the educational value of the voyage and the potential for Hawai'i's public school teachers to incorporate the many aspects of the journey into their professional practice to engage Hawai'i's young learners and to transform how they deliver a standards-based curriculum.

The Mālama Honua vision fits seamlessly with the DOE's General Learner Outcomes (GLOs) and we will support teachers to plan and implement lessons that can address the GLOs in the context of the Mālama Honua vision. The DOE further acknowledges the potential the journey provides for teachers to align Common Core Statewide Standards into the diverse dimensions of the voyage that can include science, math, engineering & design, geography, arts & humanities, Hawaiian language & culture, and physical fitness to name a few.

The Mālama Honua Worldwide Voyage comes at a time when the DOE embarks on its own journey to reform public education in the State of Hawai'i. The department is incorporating higher standards of our students to become global contributors, and the Mālama Honua voyage complements the DOE's commitment to prepare our students to be college, career, and community ready.

It is imperative that our public school students help shape how Hawai'i fits into the global society and that the vision of Mālama Honua, which is grounded in the Hawaiian philosophy of caring, can guide our practice of becoming responsible for the health and well-being of our island home and its people. If we care for our earth as if it were our island home, we will ensure its sustainability for future generations.

Therefore, the DOE commits to working collaboratively with the Polynesian Voyaging Society and its other educational partners to provide meaningful experiences, connections, and learning opportunities for Hawai'i's public school teachers and students to realize the vision of Mālama Honua.