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Kamehameha Schools Kaiāulu and Windward Mall Present Ho'oulu He'eia

Family-friendly event aims to encourage community members to grow

lā'au Hawai'i in their homes and neighborhoods

HE'EIA, HAWAI'I (April 9, 2024) — Kamehameha Schools Kaiāulu and Windward Mall invite the community to celebrate Native Hawaiian Plant Month with Ho'oulu He'eia on Saturday, April 13. The event highlights the beauty, cultural significance and threats to Hawai'i's native plants through educational activities for keiki, booths with advocacy information, demonstrations and a market featuring local vendors selling indigenous plants. Giveaways and entertainment will also be offered throughout the day.

"Native Hawaiian plants are a vital part of what makes Hawai'i unique, as lā'au Hawai'i are intrinsically connected to our people, cultural practices and 'āina," said Wai'ale'ale Sarsona, Vice President of Kamehameha Schools' Hi'ialo. "But their predicament is alarmingly dire, with more than 100 native species already extinct and another 200 facing a similar fate. Growing more native plants helps mālama the places and people that make Hawai'i Hawai'i, and contributes to a thriving lāhui."

- WHAT:** Ho'oulu He'eia
- WHEN:** Sat., April 13, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.
- WHERE:** Windward Mall Center Court

In recent years, April has been recognized both nationally as National Native Plant Month and locally as Native Hawaiian Plant Month. These designations underscore the vital role native plants play in preventing flooding, drought and erosion, and in maintaining strong ecosystems crucial for native wildlife.

"As the stewards of Ke Ali'i Pauahi's lands, we recognize that native plants are critical to the resiliency of 'āina, not just in our natural environments like rainforests and watersheds, but also in urban settings like around buildings, along streets and in backyards," said Kamuela Cobb-Adams, Managing Director of Kamehameha Schools' 'Āina Pauahi Asset Management Division. "Kamehameha Schools is dedicated to growing indigenous plants across all of 'Āina Pauahi. For



example, Windward Mall, a community gathering place hosting this event, features native plants throughout its property, including a dedicated māla at its entrance.”

Organizations, businesses and community partners participating in Ho‘oulu He‘eia include Hui Kū Maoli Ola, Papahana Kuaola, Kūlaniākea, Ko‘olaupoko Hawaiian Civic Club, the Department of Land and Natural Resources’ Division of Forestry and Wildlife — Rare Plant Program, Laukahi Network, Ka ‘Ulu Lā‘au, Waialua Estate Coffee and Chocolate, Kinolau Herbal Remedies, Hawai‘i Land Trust, Ho‘omaluhia Botanical Garden, Kamehameha Schools Kapālama High School, Kanaeokana, and Kamehameha Publishing.

For more information, visit us at windwardmall.com or follow @WindwardMall on Facebook or Instagram for the latest updates.

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About Kamehameha Schools

Founded in 1887 by the legacy of Princess Bernice Pauahi Bishop, Kamehameha Schools (KS) is a private, educational, charitable trust committed to improving the capability and well-being of Native Hawaiian people through education. KS envisions a thriving lāhui where learners, grounded in Christian and Hawaiian values, grow into ‘ōiwi leaders who inspire and contribute to their communities, both locally and globally. For more information, visit www.ksbe.edu and connect via Facebook and Instagram (@kamehamehaschools) and Twitter (@ksnews).

About KS Kaiāulu

[KS Kaiāulu](#) continues Kamehameha Schools’ half-century commitment to providing educational opportunities to students beyond Kamehameha Schools campuses and preschools. Today, KS Kaiāulu brings together [Kamehameha Schools’](#) scholarships, online learning resources, community resource centers, and community partners’ rich Hawaiian culture, ‘ōlelo and ‘āina-focused opportunities that grow ‘ōiwi leaders – people who use their knowledge, skill, and passion to strengthen Hawai‘i, its people, and our global community. For more information, visit www.ksbe.edu/kaiaulu and connect via Instagram (@kskaiaulu).

About Windward Mall

Located at the corner of Kamehameha Highway and Ha‘ikū Road in He‘eia, Windward Mall offers shoppers from the Windward side and beyond a mix of national and local retailers emphasizing a family-friendly atmosphere. Anchored by Target, Ross Dress for Less, and Regal Cinemas, the mall also features more than 100 stores and eateries. More information is available at windwardmall.com. Managed by JLL, Windward Mall is owned by Kamehameha Schools. Income generated from Windward Mall and Kamehameha Schools’ commercial projects supports the trust’s educational mission.

About JLL



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