

Aloha Kaua E Na Haumana:

Welcome to Na WAHINE NO ME KA HA'AHA'A MAI MAIKI e Na Kane o KAOHULANI. May I share with you, na Mele(Songs) and na Hula(Dances) of Hawai'i.

We will be studying geneology, culture, mannerisms, legends, poetry and the beauties of our own Hawai'i.

Much is to be said for the arts of our Islands.

Fortunate am I to have been trained in the art of the hula by my mother, MAIKI AIU LAKE (Kumu Hula). My association with Hawai'i's artists and master instructors and composers have made my learning even more rewarding than I could have ever imagined. Artists that have now passed on that have left me with rich knowledge such as Vicki I'i Rodrigues(Musician, Teacher, Translator Composer), Aunty Alice Namakelua(Composer), Bina Mossman(Composer), Maddy Lam (Composer), Bill Aliiloa Lincoln(Musician, Composer), and especially my many visits with my Mom to Tutu Kawena at her home in Manoa. All these special people have made my training in the hula rich with an awareness in the arts of the Hula.

To such special friends as Kaupena Wong, Pat Bacon, daughter of Kawena Pukui, Aunty Malia Craver(Tutu Kawena's protigee and student in language), Aunty Sally Wood Naluai(Kumu Hula), and my god-mother Kekauilani Kalama(Kumu Hula) all your encouragement and beliefs in me as a Teacher in the art of the Hula is appreciated and treasured.

For it is all of you that have instilled in me the beautiful and precious love for all things Hawaiian.

May your studies and hours of learning be pleasant, and your knowledge of our Hawai'i grow through the Art of Hula.

KULIA I KA NU'U ME KA HA'AHA'A. . . Strive for the Highest with Humbleness.

O wan No Me Ka Ha'aha'a,

Karen Kaohulani Aiu-COSTA