

Tan Yoneda
name of kumu hula

NANA E NA HULA LOEA PROJECT

1. HOW DID YOU BECOME INTERESTED IN THE HULA?

I lost interest in the hula in my teens. Became interested again at age 21. Wanted to direct her energies to something and explore her Hawai'i Heritage. She was gaining weight.

2. HOW MANY YEARS DID YOU STAY WITH EACH KUMU YOU STUDIED UNDER?

Who were the kumu of your kumu hula?

Did you uniki with any of your kumu?

Anna Like - Age 3 to 12, Ohana to her. She had a music group who they would dance for.
Danny Itanohano - Age 20 - a kumu for Hoakalei Kamehamehu Teaching satellite workshop in Pearl City. Sent to HK in 6 months. ← Pukui
HK - Iolani Machine style. Gave her Kaniko foundation.
5-6 years

3. What kumu have been your greatest influence and for what reason(s)?

Leimomi Ho (Summer St.) - Hoakalei gave the mental aspects. LH taught her the courtesies, relating to other people as a kumu and houni. Share & give all you can.

4. What was the name and location of your halaus?
 (STUDIO) (HOME) (OTHER)
5. What were the teaching methods and the teaching styles used by your kumu?
 Please describe how you were taught the chants/mele?

Teaching

1. When and why did you begin to teach?
 How many years have you been a kumu?

1974-1975: Given 1st teaching assignment by HK.
 Went on to teach at Radford and Moanalua. Always
 went back to HK for legitimacy.
 Teamed up w/ Lt at Moanalua.

2. What requirements had to be met for you to become a kumu?

Hoak. K. made the decision for JK to be a
 kumu. She just wanted to be a dancer not a
 kumu. Enjoyed dancing and the discipline,
 the chants. ~~When she~~ The careers came to
 me. Hoakulii said it will never be your decision.

3. What sacrifices have you had to make? Have you had to take additional jobs?
(a) Haumana

(b) Kumu Hard times in terms of family rel.
Must be totally submerged in hula to be a good kumu.
Family is sacrificed. Decided to compromise, wanted
profession & family side. Thus no perm. hula.
Hula is not everything. A Kumu can exist
without a hula but not vice versa.

4. How would you describe your style of dancing? Is it a direct reflection of your personality? Is your style changing?

No unique style. Strong effort to duplicate what she has been taught. But she does take unchoreographed chants using traditional steps.

5. What has been your most special remembrance as a: (Did you dance before any special audiences?)
(a) Haumana

(b) Kumu

6. What was the happiest point of your career?
What was the most difficult time of your career?

Amateur ^{Kahilo} perf. at Kualoa Park. Girls placed first.
Boys & girls placed second but very tradit.
Did "a Kahalen". Boys didn't place.

Bittersweet, highest - lowest point of your career. Group was breaking up to the last minute. At the last moment they came together. They finally received no. 2.

7. What is your greatest accomplishment as a: What happened?
(a) Haumana

From the beginning ~~they were~~
the emphasis had been
put on the training, not
the performance. Learned
success within, not the outward

(b) Kumu

Students have been given an extensive and
~~well~~ balanced foundation. They reflect a very
open & giving personality.

8. What does the art of hula offer the modern Hawaiian of today?

Important thing is what the kumu insert to
their haumana, not the popularity of the
mass public. As a kumu you must block out the
audience. Process more important than result.

9. What advice do you have for the young dancers of today?

Never make the same mistakes twice after
you have been corrected by kumu (Edith Mak)
Keep the original, original. Look to the
un choreographed moves for creativity.

10. How has the hula changed since you began your career?
If it has changed has it been a change for the better?

It has become a vigorous, aggressive, very fast-delivery, no softness, no melodious sound to chant. Hawaiian language is a melodious language. Chants are deep, bang. vs. dance. A lot of Kumu are not aware of responsib., sporadic education.

11. What has become your definition of hula kahiko? Hula auwana?
What is your favorite hula auwana, hula kahiko, and chant?

HK - Form of dance passed down from generation to gen. Favorite: male-

← "Akahiko" (Edith K.) Women: (Halealea)

(Fresh style) ~~Point~~ "Hauina" (Connections of Lit & history, Legend lives)

12. What do you foresee happening to hula kahiko, and hula auwana in the next ten years?

13. What has become your philosophy for living?

14. Who do you consider the grand masters of yesterday and why?
Who do you consider the grand masters of today and why?

15. What three kumu do you feel should be interviewed for this project?