Hōkūlani Insider

Quarterly eNewsletter for Project Hōkūlani

SUMMER SUCCESS!

Principal Investigator Dr. Hye-Jin Park's Welcome Message



Summer is coming to a close! This issue looks back on a packed schedule of internships, summer STEM camps, and our final hoʻike. Project highlights include:

- **Important Events**
  Summer Internships Wrap Up!
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- **Alanui O Hōkūlani**
  Summer STEM Camps
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- **ʻOhana Connections**
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Summer Internships Wrap Up!



Auli'i interned at the Hawai'i Institute of Marine Biology with 12 other haumāna (students). Here she is identifying marine animals.





Pictured at left: Lana nurtures native plants at the Kalaeloa site. Pictured at right: Kirra interned at Venture Physical Therapy and presented her research on strokes at the Lāna'i Senior Center.





Pictured at left: Elissa and her Terraformation mentor, Shelly, investigate tree science. Pictured at right: another mentor joins in the efforts.

Project Hōkūlani internships for students in Cohort 3 were completed in the third week of July, and students shared their experiences with us on their Google web pages, as well as in pre-recorded videos which they prepared for the Hoʻike. Have a look here to see all they achieved and what they thought about their work based learning:

- Kona –
  - Terraformation is a for profit company, scaling natural carbon capture by solving the biggest bottlenecks to forest restoration, and thereby accelerating global progress toward this climate solution. The intern explored the various steps used in Hawaiʻi and globally in reforestation projects. She was trained to use the company**ʻ**s Terraware App to track seed storage, growth, and outplanting to monitor the success of each individual in their care. The event took place in the second week of July.
- Oʻahu –
  - UH Manoa Laboratory of Applications in Informatics and Analytics interns created a website form that fills out medical patient information based on a conversation between a doctor and their patient. The object of the website was for the form to be completely automated, preventing possible human errors and allowing for more efficiency.
  - Chaminade Natural Science Department Lab interns collected limu, measured limu density, and took water samples at Kaʻalawai Beach. Then at Chaminade students identified limu at the labs. The goal of the project is to discover ways to restore the native limu, coral, and other native species at Kaʻalawai Beach by helping to identify and track limu species.
- Lānaʻi –
  - Venture Physical Therapy interns focused on sports injuries, back pain, strokes, and the benefits to patients who are treated by professionals like those the students worked with in Kihei and Lāna**ʻ**i City. Some of these students presented their learning to a community audience. Likewise, interns who worked at the Four Seasons Resort at Manele shared the wealth of knowledge they gained about wayfinding (traditional Hawaiian ocean navigation), astronomy and the operation of the observatory telescope to community members and resort guests. The interns who participated in the Lāna**ʻ**i Limu Restoration Project also presented to a local audience; their weeks-long experiment was to grow ōgō (edible Hawaiian seaweed) with two different nutrient sources, with the aim of discovering how community members could do backyard cultivation themselves.



Nā Hōʻike



On Friday morning, July 12th, Kona student interns came together either virtually or in person, at the Terraformation office building in Kailua-Kona. Oʻahu and Lānaʻi celebrated this year's students' internships on Saturday morning, July 27th, both virtually and in person at UH Mānoa campus (pictured above). In Hilo, at Ka Haka Ula o Keʻelikolani, everyone gathered the evening of Friday, June 28th.



Alanui O Hōkūlani

Alanui O Hōkūlani Summer STEM Camps are a Hit!

What can be better than hands-on STEM throughout the school year? Summer STEM Camps! On the Big Island, two camps were conducted in June: the first at Hilo, from June 3-7 at the University of Hawai'i Hilo campus, and the second at Kona, June 10-14 at Ke Kula o 'Ehunuikaimalino. At the same time, the camp on Lānaʻi took place, from June 10-19 at Lānaʻi High School. Then in July, the Oʻahu camp ran from July 8-17 at the Mānoa campus of University of Hawai'i.





Pictured at left: Kailua-Kona Summer STEM Camp students learn about slope and surface runoff and their effects on the health of our coral reefs through their hands-on activities. Pictured at right: Hā Ora leans in for a closer look with Rachel at his side, as does Kumu Kanani with Rief at her side.

Most lessons were the same at all camps: Astronomy, Soil Science, Health Science, Creative Digital Media, Computer Science and Sustainability, as well as College Transition and lessons connecting STEM to Native Hawaiian culture. However, field trips and other activities differed on all islands. The Kona camp offered 4 half days with a focus on the science lessons (see above) for 3 students, who appreciated the modified lessons of their schedule. In Hilo 12 students in grades 7-10 met with 4 kumu over five days in June. All learning was tied to a single holistic theme which deepened everyone's experience. Hawaiian ways of knowing included Student Life Center, Aina university, Imiloa, and paddling Waʻa.



Pictured above, Oʻahu students and staff of Project Hokulani's Summer STEM Camp.

Alanui O Hōkūlani



Some of the students learned about aquaculture on a campus tour at Windward Community College



Others got a feel for what it's like to be on the air at the Public Broadcasting Service (PBS) at Mānoa





Hands-on lessons included learning cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) and stream restoration at Palolo, in Honolulu.

Check out the student videos O'ahu haumāna produced here: Student Videos - Project Hokulani - Google Drive



Lāna'i students and staff included Isaac, Cooper and kumu Doug who learned about sharks from the Maui Ocean Center nature guide.



Cassidy runs with a quadrat to set up a marine sampling challenge for peers at Manele Bay, Lāna'i.

Lānaʻi had 5 participants who visited Kumu Ola Farm, the Observatory at Four Seasons Manele, Hulopoʻe Beach tidepools, UH-Maui College's sites in Lānaʻi City and Kahului, and the Maui Ocean Center. Students were enthusiastic about all the excursions, but they agreed the trip to Maui was the most exciting, as they did an electrical engineering lab at UHMC with Dr. Jung Park, and got a fully guided tour of the marine life – including behind the scenes with staff – at the ocean center in Maʻalaea. After all these trips, all students expressed an interest in STEM careers they could pursue in their future!

The Hōkūlani internships will be offered again in spring 2025 to students who take part in these camps, and to all others! And in summer 2025, more STEM camps will also be offered! **Spread the word!**

Option to Continue!

As promised this coming year, current Cohort 3 interns can look forward to an announcement in August about continuing their journey with our support. Our new grant makes it possible for students who are interested to be mentored on the topics of their choice, and to get help with individualized skills as they pursue their academic and career goals.

ʻOhana Connections

In June, we shared two videos of a senior student and two parents discussing their college transition experiences and tips and resources:

- **Project Hōkūlani Student Parent Meeting – College Transition**
- **Hōkūlani 'Ohana Gathering – College Tips & Resources**

Go to this link to view these videos, where you also may review any past ʻOhana Session from this year. (password: parents2023)

Cool Resources

Want to continue your research but need money? Here is one example of a small grant youth can apply for themselves!

- Apply Now - $2500 Global HEY Youth Climate Fund 2024 | YouthLead This grant is for 13-17 year olds and states: The HEY Global Climate Fund is a unique opportunity for young people passionate about climate advocacy to make a tangible difference. Three projects will each receive $2500 and applications must be submitted by August 5, 2024.

Many other funding opportunities can also be found at this site below, so keep checking to see what's available, and stay in touch with Project Hokulani staff and mentors if you need help!

- Funding Opportunities | YouthLead