



1732 S. Chambers Rd, Aurora, CO 80017 - (954) 557-2254
Nonprofit 501(c)(3) Tax ID: 45-3170062

Aloha, Talofa, Ia Ora Na, Kia Ora, Greetings,

I am a member of Hālau Kalama, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, which is dedicated to the preservation and perpetuation of Native Pacific Islander culture and heritage through music, dance, language, and education. Members of Hālau Kalama strive to entertain as well as enlighten all communities who wish to experience the "Aloha Spirit". We focus our activities primarily in Colorado, but our volunteerism has reached as far as helping small Pacific island communities that are still being impacted by Covid-19. I am including a link to our website so you can learn even more about us (www.denverleiday.org). Our huamana (students) come from all over the Denver metro area and represent a diverse background from numerous Pacific Islands to non-Pacific Islanders.

We are preparing for our 15th annual Lei Day fundraiser event! It will be held on June 24th, 2023 at the Douglas County Fairgrounds, in Castle Rock. The fundraiser has grown from a small showcase at its humble beginnings to hundreds of attendees. In 2022, we set a goal of 700 attendees, and this year we are setting our goal at 800 - 1,000! The fundraiser show format is akin to a Polynesian lū'au. Our performances are comprised entirely of our near 90 student-members, from keiki (children) to kūpuna (elders). We typically showcase cultural performances from Hawai'i, Tahiti, Samoa, and Aotearoa (New Zealand), but we also have members with connections to Micronesia, Fiji, Tonga, Kiribati, and other Pacific Islands. We have our own Tahitian drum line and our own musicians who will be performing many of the numbers our students will be dancing to.

We need your support to make this year's performance a success. This single fundraiser provides the majority of the funding we use throughout the year to offset studio costs, student tuition, community outreach activities, educational materials, guest workshops, scholarships, travel to Colorado communities, student costumes, implements, and musical instruments.

Would you consider donating gift cards, in-kind donations of your company products, sponsorship or other types of donations to help us achieve our goals? Last year we received a wide variety of company donations from small and large businesses alike. We deeply appreciate your support, and if you would like to contribute or you have questions, please don't hesitate to reach out to our Donations Co-Chairpersons Shawna Kaneshiro and Matt Hubner at shawnakay173@gmail.com / (661) 406-0610 and mhubner@gmail.com / (214) 502-3349, respectively.

Mahalo (thank you) in advance for your support of our mission to educate and spread the Aloha Spirit here in Colorado!