

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. We are preparing for our 16th annual Lei Day fundraiser event! It will be held on June 29th, 2024 at the Douglas County Fairgrounds, in Castle Rock. The fundraiser has grown from a small showcase at its humble beginnings to hundreds of attendees. This year we are setting our goal at 700 attendees! The fundraiser show format is akin to a Polynesian lū'au. Our performances are comprised entirely of our near 80 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.

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 and surrounding states, but in 2023, our volunteerism included co-organizing and supporting <u>Colorado4Maui.org</u>, a benefit event that raised over \$20,000 for victims of the Maui wildfires. I am including a link to our website so you can learn even more about us (<u>www.denverleiday.org</u>). Our haumana (students) come from all over the Denver metro area and represent a diverse background from numerous Pacific Islands to non-Pacific Islanders.

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 Matt Hubner and Le'alani Boykin at <u>mhubner@gmail.com</u> /(214) 502-3349 and <u>manalealani@gmail.com</u>/(303) 960-8562, respectively.

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

Referral code: _____