

Ka Holo Wa'a - SPRING 2017



Ka Holo Wa'a (KHW) is a service-learning program that introduces students to the many facets of the wa'a (canoe) and voyaging

The wa'a is an integral part of our island existence. It is both a physical and spiritual representation that connects today's Native Hawaiians to their ancestors, who first sailed to the islands hundreds of generations ago.

Yet, the wa'a also represents the cultural connections that Native Hawaiians have with other Oceanic peoples. In this sense the wa'a is the link that binds Pacific Island communities to each other, in the past and today.

Master Navigator Mau Piailug of Satawal (Yap State of the Federated States of Micronesia) was instrumental in teaching traditional way-finding practices and sailing in Hawai'i in the 1970s during the Hawaiian Renaissance. Through reconnecting with other Pacific Islanders, the wa'a has again become an intergal part of our Oceanic world.

The intent of this program is to perpetuate the tradition of the canoe as a link that connects Oceanic communities, but also as a guide that helps people reach their destinations.

PROGRAM DETAILS

Ka Holo Wa'a (KHW) is administered by the UHM College of Social Sciences' ACCESS Program for Civic Engagement (PCE) and the Kānehūnāmoku Voyaging Academy (KVA).

While building a wa'a under the leadership of carver Junior Coleman, college students, K-12 students, and local Pacific and Hawaiian communities are introduced to the traditions and the skills of the wa'a – as well as to its importance as both a symbol and a practical example of sustainable living, as embraced by the university system through its support for the Mālama Honua Worldwide Voyage of Hōkūle'a, the first Hawaiian double-hulled voyaging wa'a built in our time.

Students will conduct a minimum of 25 hours of service learning. They will meet on selected weekend and week days throughout the semester and learn about parts and functions of the canoe, along with seamanship and traditional sailing skills.

KHW has several special projects for this Spring semester, including introducing the PEACE (Pālolo Educational And Cultural Engagement) Project through helping the Pālolo Valley Homes community with building the wa'a, complete the hālau wa'a (canoe house), and working the canoe and medicinal plant garden.

TENTATIVE SCHEDULE (underlined, common activities)

- **FEB 1 2-4pm Dean Hall 5-6, UHM campus: Orientation**
- FEB-APR: Thursday afternoons 12:30-7 pm and by appointment: build the Pālolo Wa'a, hālau wa'a, canoe, and lā'au lapa'au garden at the Pālolo Valley Homes PEACE Project plantation (2195 Ahe Street, Honolulu 96814).
- Work at the KVA Canoe Plant Garden He Wa'a He Moku, He Moku He Wa'a (47-292 Ahaolelo Road (Marimed Campus, Kaneohe 96744) on scheduled community work days (TBA).
- **MAR 27 10-5pm: Cultural Day**
- 'Imi Na'auao crew training. We have a limited number of scholarships available (4-5 days on a neighbor island, probably in March)
- **Launching the canoe, day to be determined**
- Mokauea Island activity hosting K-12 students, date and details to be announced
- APR 22: Mālama He'eia Loko I'a,
- **MAY 6: Sailing (pending weather)/Reflection**

TO GET STARTED

- Register for service learning here: <https://goo.gl/forms/naioslwDEC057Tns1>
- Print, sign, and submit the service-learning waiver and release form, which can be downloaded here http://servicelearning.socialsciences.hawaii.edu/pdf/PCE_waiver_rev_0116.pdf
- Email Kat Lobendahn at csssl@hawaii.edu (subject line: "KHW") to let her know about your interest.
- Attend the orientation and initial training on 1/25 2-4 pm in Dean Hall room 5/6, UH Mānoa Campus

PROGRAM LEADERS AND SPONSORS

Daily program leaders: Kat Lobendahn (PCE); Loyal Kekahuna-Baisa and Kala Thomas (KVA)
Faculty leaders: Bonnie Kahape'a-Tanner (KVA), Ulla Hasager (PCE), and Willy Kauai (NHSS)
Other support: Dahlia Asuega, Darienne Dey, Kyle Kajihiro, Joakim Peter, Kāmō'i Sausen, Kanaloa Schrader, Mahealani Treaster
Sponsors: Kānehūnāmoku Voyaging Academy, Lyon Arboretum, Marimed Foundation, Pālolo Tenants Association, PAPA/Student Activity and Program Fee Board (SAPFB), UHM College of Social Sciences, UHM Ethnic Studies Department, and private donors.

CONTACT

Kat Lobendahn, Program for Civic Engagement, College of Social Sciences, University of Hawai'i at Mānoa.

Email: csssl@hawaii.edu, ph. 808 956 0655. Office: ACCESS, Dean Hall 5/6, UHM Campus Direct link to KHW Calendar:

https://calendar.google.com/calendar/embed?src=hawaii.edu_hq49kc83d12id7ppujt118uk%40group.calendar.google.com&ctz=Pacific/Honolulu

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