Mele Mural portrays beauty of Hilo through art and stories

by Ken Hupp

A wall of Hale Kauanoe Residence Hall has been transformed into a showcase for important artistic, cultural, and historical themes following the recent unveiling of a new mural.

The mural was created by a core hui of students in partnership with Creative Director Estria Miyashiro of the non-profit Estria Foundation, and lead artists Kanoa Castro, Beethoven Sausal and Jesse Velasquez and supported by various UH Hilo programs, including the Chancellor’s Ho’okahua Project, Kipuka Native Hawaiian Student Center and University Housing Kanilehua Living Learning Community.

Concepts for Konikoni Ana I Ka Iwi Hilo were developed during workshops with the student core hui comprised of partnering programs and the Keaholaa STEM Scholars Program. Member Kaua Mitchell said the primary inspiration came from a huaka‘i (field trip) from mauka (uplands) to makai (coastline) beginning at Pu‘uhuluhulu, Pu‘u‘umele, Waiuli, and ending at Moku Ola. “At each place, we had the opportunity to observe and listen to our surroundings through meditation,” Mitchell said. “Meditating played a key role in understanding and connecting ourselves to the mural and what it will portray to the community.”

“Three” is a central theme with its layout representing Wao Akua (heavens), Wao Kanaka (inland region) and kai (ocean), tying together the three pikos (umbilical cord) of kanaka (past, present and future), and Hilo’s three divisions.

Its portrayal of the beauty and history of Hilo is told in part through the mo‘olelo (story) of Hina, Maui and Mo’okuna, in which Maui saves his mother Hina, the moon goddess from Mo’okuna, a powerful kupua (demigod), who tries to drown her by blocking the entrance to her cave at Rainbow Falls while filling it up with water. After removing the boulder, Maui defeats Mo’okuna, and leaves his

Classroom, campus and community: an interconnected sustainable environment

by Chancellor Don Straney

Two important developments have put sustainability at the forefront of our thinking at the University of Hawai‘i at Hilo.

First, the UH System has adopted an executive policy (EP 4.202) that sets expectations about incorporating sustainability into campus operations, curriculum, scholarship and community outreach.

Second, a joint collaboration of State and County government and the UH System, called the Aloha+ Challenge, was just launched to achieve six sustainability targets by 2030 in clean energy, local food production, natural resource management, solid waste reduction, smart growth and climate resilience, green jobs and education.

UH Hilo is already moving in this direction, and here are some examples:

- Our Local First program is a big success — we are the only UH campus that serves 65 percent locally produced food in our dining rooms
- Our energy reduction program reduces plug load energy consumption, increases machine and electronic operational efficiency, and reduces peak-hour demand

Mele Mural - continued on page 2. Interconnected - continued on page 3.
Mele Mural
Continued from page 1

carcass at the entrance to his mother’s cave.

The mural is the latest in a series created under the Estria Foundation’s Mele Murals project. Over a five-year period, starting in late 2013, local artists, youth, and other members of communities spanning the eight major islands of Hawai‘i have begun creating a series of large-scale outdoor murals focusing on Hawaiian lyrics that explore moʻolelo ʻāina (stories of place) and cultural and historical heritage. Although they occupy a large space, the murals are just part of a much bigger picture.

“The goal is to see these students develop confidence, excitement, and a wonderment for visual storytelling,” Miyashiro said. “My hope is that they will fall in love with this place and become caretakers of this ʻāina and kai. By transforming this space, it becomes a vehicle for transforming those who interact with it.”

For the Estria Foundation, art is its vehicle for promoting international social change. Manoa Johansen, a member of the student core hui, agrees that art can have a very powerful influence.

“Art is the creative process of telling a story,” Johansen said. “And stories help to capture the essence of a culture and perpetuate it through generations.”

The collaboration with UH Hilo is the first University partnership for the Statewide youth empowerment and cultural preservation project. Interim Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs Gail Makuakane-Lundin said the project provided a great opportunity for students to play an important role in preserving Hawaiian values, while increasing cross-generational and cross-island engagement through the sharing of mele (song) and stories.

“This is an exciting partnership for UH Hilo and provides a forum for our students to share their personal stories and express their ideas in a very public way,” Makuakane-Lundin said.

Miyashiro says murals both reclaim and liberate space, as they make meaningful connections between people and their ʻāina. The project has clearly been a labor of love for him as he admits to being more proud of each mural he’s done than with his own individual work. And he’s leaving the door open to the possibility of extending the project past its planned five-year lifespan.

“If this is successful, then we’ll keep it going,” Miyashiro said. “And if people ask for more projects and young people continue to create art with a message and heart, then it is successful.”

(Ken Hupp is a public information officer.)

UH Hilo exhibits Prints from Belgrade

The UH Hilo Art Department features Prints from Belgrade, which is hosted in partnership with the University of Houston-Clear Lake Consortium. The exhibit is on display through May 15 at the Manono Campus Gallery, Building 395, which is open weekdays at the following times:

Monday: 9:30 am – 2 pm
Tuesday: 1 – 5 pm
Wednesday: 4:30 pm – 8 pm
Thursday: 9:30 am – 1 pm
Friday: 10 am – 5 pm

For more information, contact Professor Michael Marshall at 974-7524 or email mdmasha@hawaii.edu.
• The electrical systems of the new Student Services Building were designed to ensure energy efficient operations with the goal to achieve LEED Silver.

Here are a few things we will be doing in key areas.

To implement the new UH policy and the Aloha+ Challenge, our campus Sustainability Committee will play an important role.

**Operations**

Operations is a big area and we will need to pull together as a campus community to effectively reduce our negative environmental impact. This includes the way we run our buildings, climate control, food systems, energy, grounds, purchasing, transportation, waste and water.

The big goal here is to minimize greenhouse emissions to the point that we become carbon neutral by 2050. This means, for example, we will be reducing our use of fossil fuel for our energy needs and adopting more energy efficient building designs.

Further, we will adopt a Green Purchasing Policy for all supplies and equipment – think computers, cleaning products, paper.

**Curriculum**

We will be working the principles of sustainability into curriculum wherever possible. In tandem, we’ll increase the number of campus and community sites for applied learning related to sustainability, including student engagement in the University’s operational improvements. The integration of sustainability practices and learning into student life and other co-curricular activities will be the norm on our campus.

**Research and scholarship**

Our faculty will be looking at ways to develop applied research initiatives that advance the principles of sustainability, especially those that involve cross-campus collaborations that integrate teaching and research. This includes investigations into solutions at the campus, community and global levels.

Further, professional development and collaboration opportunities for faculty and students in sustainability scholarship will be routinely offered.

**Community collaboration**

Sustainability is really an island-wide goal. The classroom, campus and local community comprise an interconnected educational environment.

The University will be reaching out to engage the local community in prioritizing and implementing sustainable practices through mutually beneficial partnerships with community organizations, non-profit organizations, public schools, and the private sector.

In striving to reach our overarching goals in sustainability for our campus and community, we will create sustainable living-learning environments that honor our host culture, our unique island environment, and the rich cultural diversity of our communities.

We will work closely with the local community to fully understand how UH Hilo can best answer community and business needs within the context of sustainability in order to help shape a strong economy, a vibrant workforce, and a better future for our island and State.

Aloha,

Donald W. Shaney

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**UH Hilo M.Ed. program accepting applications**

The UH Hilo School of Education is seeking licensed teacher applicants for its Master of Education (M.Ed.) Program for the Fall 2015 semester. Applications are currently being accepted and continues on a space available basis until May 31, 2015.

“The M.Ed. degree is one of the most affordable education graduate programs in the State,” noted Dr. Michele Ebersole, chair, school of education. “This high-quality program is uniquely designed for working teachers and features primarily online classes, small class sizes, professors who care about student learning and a supportive cohort learning community which enhances success.”

The M.Ed. is a 30 semester-hour program that requires two years to complete. Online applications and information can be found at: http://hilo.hawaii.edu/depts/education/MEdAdmissions.php.

For additional information about the M.Ed., contact Dr. Michele Ebersole at 932-7108 or mebersol@hawaii.edu, or Dr. Avis Masuda at 932-7104 oramasuda@hawaii.edu.
Hats off to...


Armando Garcia, Assistant Professor, Aquaculture, served on the 2015 Graduate Research Fellowship Program Panel of the National Science Foundation. He also presented “Effect of ration size on growth, energy budget and feeding behavior in juvenile spotted rose snapper *Lutjanus guttatus*” at the Aquaculture America 2015 conference held in New Orleans, LA.

Chris Frueh, Professor, Psychology, gave four invited presentations in Australia, including the keynote address to the Tele-mental Health Research and Practice Conference, University of South Australia in Adelaide, a talk on the PTSD treatment at The Royal Australian & New Zealand College of Psychiatrists in Perth, and a talk on PTSD services and policies at the Australian National Centre for Posttraumatic Mental Health at the University of Melbourne. He also consulted to the national mental health leadership of the Australian Veterans Affairs and Defense systems in Canberra on matters related to PTSD treatment and policy.

Todd Belt, Professor, Political Science, was invited to give a presentation on “New Leadership for Hawai‘i and Prospects for Policy Change” for a roundtable on Budget Politics in the Western States at the Western Political Science Association Conference in Las Vegas, NV this month.

Carolyn Ma, Associate Professor, Pharmacy Practice, co-wrote “Impact of Utilizing Pharmacy Students as Workforce for Hawaii Asthma Friendly Pharmacy Project,” published in *Hawaii Journal of Medicine & Public Health*.

Dana-Lynn Koomoa-Lange, Assistant Professor, Pharmaceutical Sciences, is co-author on “Differential Regulation of Calcium Signalling Pathways by Components of Piper methysticum (‘Awa),” published in *Phytotherapy Research*.

Ken Morris, Chair, Pharmaceutical Sciences, was lead author on “Relaxation Kinetic Study of Eudragit NM30D Film Based on Complex Modulus Formalism,” published in American Association of Pharmaceutical Scientists’ *PharmSciTech*.

Mimi Pezzuto, Instructor, Pharmacy Practice & Pharmaceutical Sciences, and Helen Wong Smith, Resources Coordinator, Pharmacy Practice, presented a lecture on the history of medication and health practices in old Hilo town at the Lyman Museum in Hilo.
Hilo SeniorNet honored for exemplary service

The Hilo SeniorNet Learning Center was recently recognized by the National SeniorNet organization for its excellent service in carrying out the SeniorNet mission of providing older adults education for and access to computer technologies to enhance their lives and enable them to share their knowledge and wisdom.

Leslie Smith, SeniorNet Board chair, complemented Lucy Maloney, Hilo SeniorNet Center Leader, for her executive level focus in recruiting new members, driving Windows 8/8.1, and increasing brand awareness. He added, “All your efforts continue to pay off. Your results in 2014 were fantastic—and in reviewing your year-to-date numbers, it appears that you will have another record-breaking year.”

Maloney credits the SeniorNet Hilo volunteer team for this recognition. In total, 16 individuals provided over 2,000 volunteer hours in 2014. Volunteers serve as instructors for the classes and also assist with some general clerical and technology maintenance responsibilities. With the support from these volunteers, Hilo SeniorNet was able to nearly triple its membership in 2014.

Classes routinely taught at SeniorNet focus on understanding Computer Fundamentals, Word Processing, Internet and Email, PC Tune-up and Troubleshooting, Spreadsheets, Digital Camera Basics, Photo Editing, Mac, iPad, and iPhone. For class descriptions, tuition, and schedules, visit http://www.seniornethilo.org.

The Hilo SeniorNet is organized under the College of Continuing Education and Community Service (CCECS) and is located at 891 Ululani Place. CCECS Interim Dean Farrah-Marie Gomes shared, “We thank Lucy and her volunteers for the contributions they are making toward the National SeniorNet organization goals and for making tremendous impact here in our local community.”

UH Hilo accreditation renewed for seven years

The Western Association of Schools and Colleges (WASC) has renewed accreditation for UH Hilo for seven years, noting in an announcement letter to Chancellor Don Straney the large number of new initiatives that strengthen the University in areas that have been problematic in the past.

A review team from WASC’s Senior College and University Commission visited campus last fall and recommended to grant UH Hilo accreditation through 2022, with an interim report due in spring of 2017, a mid-cycle review in 2019, and a full review in 2021.

“The visiting WASC team was impressed by the level of commitment and passion exhibited by our students, faculty, staff, and alumni, and they commended us on knowing our mission and vision well and in using both to inform what we do,” said Straney.

During the review process, UH Hilo was part of a group of pilot institutions to test a new institutional review process in advance of the 2013 approval of the new Handbook of Accreditation. In the pilot, institutions were asked to focus on new areas that had not been previously required.

Noting that UH Hilo was forging new ground, the review team noted the University’s level of “candor, transparency, self-awareness, and commitment to continuous learning” that “demonstrated a high level of quality and rigor invested in the accreditation process.”

The commission highlighted several areas for special recognition, among them:

- A sense of place, which conveys the importance Hilo feels about passing the culture of Hawai’i Island to the current generation while at the same time focusing on the creation of new meanings for the future.
- A mission rooted in Hawaiian traditions, notably in the area of applied learning experiences, including community based projects, service learning, research internships, practica, creative activities and capstone projects.
- Strong, well-respected leadership as well as committed staff and faculty—key elements in ensuring longer-term educational effectiveness and financial sustainability. The review team concluded, “UH Hilo is a campus of resiliency in action.”

The commission also offered guidance in areas the University could strengthen, including the “remarkable” applied learning program, retention and graduation rates, review for academic programs, and distance education.

“I want to give a special mahalo to the people on UH Hilo’s WASC Accreditation Committee who worked hard preparing the institutional report that served as the basis for the visit,” said Straney. “I also want to thank our alumni who met with the team. Their description of UH Hilo as a transformative educational experience greatly impressed the review team.”
New program offers scholarships for STEM

The National Science Foundation has awarded UH Hilo a $622,175 grant to support the Scholarships for STEM Program (S-STEM), a unique, new program that provides scholarships for academically talented, economically disadvantaged high school seniors who major in one of the following STEM (science, technology, engineering, mathematics) disciplines: Astronomy, Biology, Chemistry, Computer Science, Environmental Science, Geology, Marine Science, Mathematics, and Physics. The application deadline is April 15, 2015.

Dr. Raina Ivanova, professor of mathematics, principal investigator, and director of the program, said, “The S-STEM Program will provide much needed support for our deserving students who have demonstrated academic potential, but due to financial difficulties might not be able to consider a college degree. We are excited to be able to help our talented youth, and enable them to pursue meaningful careers in STEM here in Hawai‘i.”

The S-STEM Program will provide each scholar with a $20,000 scholarship for four years of undergraduate studies (up to $5,000 per year), provided that the student maintains good academic standing and remains a STEM major. The program will also integrate and expand existing educational services for STEM students at UH Hilo.

Students will be selected on the basis of academic potential, motivation, and interest in the STEM disciplines, as indicated by their high school GPA, standardized test scores, a letter stating interests, and letters of reference.

Academic support services for the program include:
- Faculty mentoring
- Peer-tutoring for introductory STEM courses
- Summer and academic year research support on campus
- Opportunities for research internships
- Advising and support to participate in summer research programs at US mainland universities
- Participation in a newly established freshman STEM course
- Opportunities to present research in campuswide, State and regional venues
- Participation in a community service program in which students will provide math and science tutoring for K-12 students

For more information, visit http://hilo.hawaii.edu/affiliates/s-stem/index.php.

The Gay Men’s Chorus of Los Angeles at PAC April 2

The Gay Men’s Chorus of Los Angeles presents It Gets Better at the UH Hilo Performing Arts Center on Thursday, April 2, at 7:30 pm.

Written and directed by Speak Theater Arts’ Liesel Reinhart, It Gets Better is infused with the dynamic musical energy of The Gay Men’s Chorus of Los Angeles and the internationally recognized branding of the It Gets Better Project.

“The It Gets Better company will be in residence for a week working closely with our University community and public schools in a series of workshops, rehearsals and community dialogue,” said Performing Arts Center Manager Lee Dombrski. “They will present workshops and make video PSAs with students at Waiakea Intermediate School, Hilo High and Intermediate Schools, and Connections Public Charter School, as well as hosting several events and workshops on the UH Hilo campus.”

The UH Hilo Kapili Choir and members of the Hilo Community Chorus have been invited to join the company for its performance.

Tickets are Reserved Seating and pre-sale priced at $25 General, $20 Discount and $10 UH Hilo/HawCC students (with a valid student ID) and children, up to age 17. On the day of the show, tickets are priced at $30 General, $25 Discount and $15 UH Hilo/HawCC students (with a valid student ID) and children, up to age 17.

Tickets are available by calling the UH Hilo Box Office at 932-7490 or by ordering online at artscenter.uhh.hawaii.edu.
DKICP expands exchange programs, pharmacy research and education with two more Thai universities

The Daniel K. Inouye College of Pharmacy at UH Hilo has signed partnerships with two more universities in Thailand that promise to give aspiring pharmacists opportunities to gain international perspectives in their field and provide a mutually beneficial arrangement that can help pharmacy practitioners and researchers advance pharmaceutical knowledge and practice.

Faculty of Pharmacy at both Silpakorn University, west of Bangkok proper in the Nakhon Pathom province, and Siam University in Bangkok, are involved in the new arrangement after memoranda of understanding (MOUs) were signed last October.

“These agreements help us broaden our reputation and allow us to give students in their fourth year of pharmacy school international exposure, both culturally and educationally,” said DKICP Dean John M. Pezzuto. “We were pleased to join other top-ranked pharmacy schools as part of the US-Thai Consortium (see story in Kawili La`au page 4 at http://pharmacy.uhh.hawaii.edu/news/newsletter/kawililaau/documents/kawili_laau_fall14.pdf), and this is another example of the opportunity for opening new doors.”

Supakit Wongwiwatthanuankit, associate professor in the Department of Pharmacy Practice helped shape the existing agreements.

“The program also brings students to pursue advanced professional, graduate study, residency or postgraduate training in our college laboratory, and in many of our experiential sites throughout the Hawaiian Islands,” Wongwiwatthanuankit said.

Meanwhile, faculty from the universities can collaborate on pharmaceutical research and work with our professional pharmacists on things like global healthcare, medication therapy management, and our pharmaceutical faculty in drug discovery.

“The outstanding product development programs in Thailand will give us opportunities for collaboration that we currently don’t have, while giving us a chance to share our expertise in formulation development,” said Ken Morris, professor and chair of pharmaceutical sciences.

The arrangement includes at least the following areas of study: (1) Advanced Pharmacy Practice experiences (APPEs); (2) Pharmaceutical Care; (3) Pharmaceutical Sciences Research; and (4) Organization of joint research projects, including conferences and meetings. Other areas of study may be added upon mutual agreement.

“I believe that this new partnership gives our respective students a wider global perspective, multiple student and faculty exchanges, visiting lecturers, research collaboration projects, practice and innovation collaborations, and faculty and preceptor development programs will be seen as mutual benefits between the new Thai schools of pharmacy and the DKICP,” said Wongwiwatthanuankit.

Dean Jurairat Nanthanid from the Faculty of Pharmacy at Silpakorn University and Dean Chalermrsi Pummangura and Weerachai Chaijamorn of Academic Staff Pharmacy Practice at Siam University came to Hilo and met with Pezzuto and discussed possibilities with other faculty.

The partnership marks DKICP’s third and fourth agreement with Thai universities. Thai schools of pharmacy already with clinical site and research agreements with DKICP include Chulalongkorn University, signed in 2011, and Rangsit University, signed in 2013.

(L-R) Chancellor Don Straney congratulates Bridget Awong, general manager, UH Hilo Campus Center Dining, Dr. Lorna Tsutsumi, professor, entomology, and Chef Alan Wong on another successful Adopt-A-Beehive event held last month at the CAFNRM Farm in Panaewa. The event honored scholarship recipients and donors, promoted sustainability, offered food samples and booths demonstrating various uses of honey and beeswax, and gave student-led tours of the apiary and garden. This was the fourth year of Adopt-A-Beehive, which is the brainchild of Chef Alan and highlights the private-public partnership between Chef Alan and UH Hilo.
“Your Summer, Your Future!”

by Scott Kawachi

Students can begin planning their future with Summer Session 2015, which begins registration on April 1 at 8 am. Applications are now being accepted for both sessions. Session One is scheduled from May 26-June 19 and Session Two from June 22-July 31.

A full list of available classes is viewable at the UH Hilo Class Availability website. Of the 180 credit courses, approximately half will be offered online. Several non-credit courses and workshops will also be available through the CCECS Fitness for Life and Professional Development programs.

In designing their curriculum, summer planners have focused efforts on maximizing options for students to enroll in high demand courses they need to meet their degree requirements, but can’t always get because they fill up quickly during the fall and spring semesters. This added opportunity has taken on added importance in recent years as the UH System seeks to increase the number of students graduating in four years through initiatives like the “15 to Finish” campaign.

At the same time, they’ve sought to supplement the summer education menu with various classes and programs that are not typically offered during the regular academic year. New special topics and experimental courses offered this summer include: Intro to Studio Seminar (ART 194), Western & Scientific Perspectives on Integration of Strategies for Food, Water, and Energy Security (BIOL 398), Comprehensive Student Supports (ED 398), Physical Activity in Public Health (KES 394), Natural History of the Kona / Kohala Coast (MARE 194), Integrated Pharmacotherapy II (PHPS 698), Human Rights (POLS 394), Queer Studies & Contemporary Society (SOC/WS 394), and Global Sociology (SOC 398). Horse & Cattle Handling (ANSC 194) was previously offered in Fall 2014 and will also be making its summer début this year.

As in past years, the 2015 summer course offering highlights the University’s familiar role as a living, learning laboratory with classes and programs emphasizing the island’s cultural and academic resources including field courses in biology, geography and marine science.

Back again by popular demand is QUEST (Quantitative Underwater Ecological Surveying Techniques), the intensive marine science field course conducted each year on the west side of the island. The two-week course trains undergraduates in underwater ecological surveying methodologies including design, implementation and analysis of a research project, and incorporates instruction in identifying the common seaweeds, corals, invertebrates and fishes of Hawaiian reefs.

Returning for its third year is the Akamai Internship Program. Administered by the Akamai Workforce Initiative and Institute for Astronomy, the program provides interns with a unique educational experience combining coursework, a project in high tech, and communication building with mentoring provided by an engineer or scientist. Students reside on campus and participate in an intensive one-week preparatory course before spending the following seven weeks interning at various sites around the State and in California. This year’s dates are June 13-August 7.

Also returning after its introduction last summer is a six-week, credit-bearing residential program funded by and in partnership with Kamehameha Schools (KS) to boost representation of Native Hawaiian and local students in Agriculture and STEM fields. The Ho’okulea Summer Bridge Program Targets UH Hilo-bound Kea’au High School students for remediation and to develop the math and writing skills needed to succeed in their first year of college. The program also incorporates ‘āina-based learning activities at various KS learning sites around the island where students will learn about their historical, cultural, and geographical significance, as well as interact with cultural practitioners/informants.

A new program this year is the Ho’okele Residential Summer Bridge Program, a collaborative project between the UH Hilo, Office of the Chancellor, Ho’okahua Program, UH Hilo LSAMP, and the Kipuka Native Hawaiian Student Center. The Ho’okele Residential Summer Bridge Program will support up to 14 Native Hawaiians and other underrepresented minorities transferring from UH community colleges and community colleges in the U.S.-affiliated Pacific Islands into UH Hilo. Students will be enrolled in two special-topics courses, a one-credit indigenous research ethics course and a three-credit interdisciplinary STEM research course.

Summer 2015 tuition rates will look much as they did last year under the schedule recently adopted by the University of Hawai‘i Board of Regents:

- Undergraduate Resident $277 per credit hour
- Undergraduate Non-resident $380 per credit hour
- Western Undergraduate Exchange $328.50 per credit hour*
- Pacific Islander $328.50 per credit hour*
- Graduate (regardless of residency) $551 per credit hour
- Graduate Nursing Resident $680 per credit hour
- Graduate Nursing Non-Resident $1,359 per credit hour

For this summer’s course listing and/or basic information, visit http://hilo.hawaii.edu/depts/summer/ or https://www.facebook.com/UHHiloSummer or email ccecs@hawaii.edu. Students who have not registered for a UH Hilo credit course within the last six months can apply for summer admission at http://hilo.hawaii.edu/studentaffairs/admissions/Apply.php. There is no application fee for summer session. International students will need to submit additional forms.

*For Summer 2015, the Board of Regents has approved a special rate for the Western Undergraduate Exchange (WUE) and for Pacific Island students. The rate is $328.50 per credit hour.

(Scott Kawachi is Summer Session Coordinator, CCECS.)
Hilo: *Da Musical* this month!

The UH Hilo Performing Arts Department announces the premiere of *Hilo: Da Musical*, on April 16, 17, and 18 at 7:30 p.m., and April 19 at 2 p.m. at the UH Hilo Performing Arts Center.

The musical is written by UH Hilo Drama Professor Jackie Pualani Johnson as an homage to her hometown where “ice shave, hula, orchids, musubi, astronomical adventures, the loco moco, and rain….. reign!” Johnson explained.

The show brings over 30 performers from every facet of Hilo’s theater scene to the stage. Giving directions, ordering food, going to the Farmer’s Market all take on their own flair in an *outa dis world* musical tribute that helps define what it means to be “local.”

The story centers around Hoku, his sister Leinani, and their best friend “Choke,” college students who go on a search through Hilo’s famous landmarks and activities, exposing life in Hilo, bit by bit. Several characters speak Pidgin English, others speak Hawaiian, and everyone sings about local food and Hilo’s quirks. An ensemble of singers acts like a local-style Greek chorus, commenting on what they see in Hilo and singing about malasadas and local antics. The show travels to Downtown Hilo, across Hilo Bay, and ends with Keaukaha’s familiar beach cruise.

Johnson directs the show, with music direction from Erin McClure, who will complete requirements for her Senior Project through her work on the show. UH Hilo resident designer, Ariana Bassett, creates the scenery. Kimo Apaka, a graduate of the UH Hilo Performing Arts Department, joins Darrel Gabonia, a videographer, in adding iconic images that will appear on stage. Performing Arts major Eli Livingston is the sound designer, with Rob Abe as advisor. Stage manager Chanell Crawford and Corey Edwards, her assistant, round out the artistic staff, with manager Lee Dombroski as producer, assisted by Dori Yamada.

Tickets are open seating and priced at $15 General, $10 Discount and $5 UH Hilo/HawCC students (with a valid student ID) and children, up to age 17, pre-sale, and $20 General, $10 Discount and $10 UH Hilo/HawCC students (with a valid student ID) and children, up to age 17, day of show.

Tickets are available by calling the UH Hilo Box Office at 932-7490 or by ordering online at artscenter.uhh.hawaii.edu.

Los Angeles-based Filipino dance group performs benefit show

*Kayamanan Ng Lahi* (Wealth of the Nation) Philippine Folk Arts, a Los Angeles–based group of 50 musicians and dancers, performs a benefit show at UH Hilo on Thursday, April 9, 6:30 p.m., in Vulcan Gymnasium. The group also performs in this year’s Merrie Monarch Festival’s Ho`ike night on April 8.

Established in 1990, *Kayamanan Ng Lahi* Philippine Folk Arts is a critically acclaimed non-profit organization committed to presenting, promoting and preserving the richness and diversity of Philippine culture through dance and music.

The benefit show will highlight performances by Dr. Norman Arancon of the College of Agriculture, Forestry and Natural Resource Management, and costumes designed and created by Iris Viacrusis, a local cultural historian and designer, who is an active contributor and mentor of the students of the Filipino Studies Certificate Program at UH Hilo. The benefit show is organized in collaboration with the students of the Filipino Studies Certificate Program headed by Dr. Rodney Jubilado, Ginger Hamilton, director of Minority Access and Achievement Program, and the Hilo Visayan community of Hilo.

Tickets are $20 donation ($17 for students) and $50 VIP (with refreshments).

For tickets and information, call 982-9225 or email iviacrusis@yahoo.com.

*Kayamanan Ng Lahi* (Wealth of the Nation) Philippine Folk Arts
Campus Events

April

1  “I” removal deadline: Student to Instructor
   Last day to apply for credit-by-exam for spring
   Priority deadline to apply for Summer & Fall 2015 Graduation

2  It Gets Better, 7:30 p.m., PAC, Admission

3  Holiday: Good Friday
   Graduate Thesis/Dissertation to Committee deadline

4  Vulcan Softball v. BYU- Hawai‘i, 1 p.m., Vulcan Field

9  Kayamanan Ng Lahi Philippine Folk Arts Benefit Show, 6:30 p.m., Vulcan Gym, Admission

15  Last day to submit Credit-by-Exam results to Office of the Registrar
   “I” Removal and Change of Grade deadline: Instructor to Ofc of the Registrar

16, 17, 18  Hilo: Da Musical, 7:30 p.m., PAC, Admission

17  Graduate/Thesis Dissertation Defense deadline

17, 18  Vulcan Baseball v. Hawai‘i Pacific Univ, 4 p.m., Wong Stadium, Admission

18  Vulcan Softball vs. Chaminade Univ, 1 p.m., Vulcan Field

19  Vulcan Baseball v. Hawai‘i Pacific Univ, Noon, Wong Stadium, Admission
   Hilo: Da Musical, 2 p.m., PAC, Admission

24  Graduate Form 3: Thesis/Dissertation to Library & Ofc of the Registrar deadline

25  Vulcan Softball v. Hawai‘i Pacific Univ, 1 p.m., Vulcan Field

29, 30  Vulcan Baseball v. Academy of Art Univ, 4 p.m., Wong Stadium, Admission