

**Kaipulaumakaniolono Kamawaehunaainaokalani Keala**  
Kamakakūokalani Center for Hawaiian Studies  
Hawaiʻinuiākea School of Hawaiian Knowledge  
University of Hawaiʻi at Mānoa

**Areas of Specialization**

Classical Moʻolelo (history, legends, and stories) of Kanaka Maoli, especially as they reveal elements of Hawaiian philosophy, modern (post-1970s Renaissance) Hawaiian politics, especially the return to traditional religious practices as an ideological praxis of aloha ʻāina via the work of the Protect Kahoʻolawe ʻOhana, Lacanian psychoanalysis, the critique of libidinal economy, and the Marxist-Hegelian tradition of dialectical inquiry.

**Areas of Research**

Critique of the commodification of aloha ʻāina, the philosophy of the ʻAikapu, moʻolelo as an articulation of ʻŌiwi ideals, and the dialectic of Kapu and Noa.

**Education**

PhD Candidate (2022 – Present)

- University of Hawaiʻi at Mānoa Department of English
- Dissertation Topic: Theorizing the Kanaka: The Dialectic of Kapu and Noa *vis-à-vis* Hawaiian Subjectivity

MFA in Hawaiian Theatre (2019–2022)

- University of Hawaiʻi at Mānoa Department of Theatre and Dance
- Thesis Production: *He Leo Aloha*
- Won eight awards in the national Kennedy Center for American College Theatre Festival

Bachelors (2016–2019): Hawaiian Language & English

- University of Hawaiʻi at Mānoa

Kamehameha Schools Kapālama (2012–2016)

**Work Experience**

Assistant Professor for Kamakakūokalani Center for Hawaiian Studies (Fall 2025–present.)

Instructor for Kamakakūokalani Center for Hawaiian Studies (Fall 2024–Spring 2025).

Graduate Assistant for the Department of English (Fall 2022–Spring 2024).

Graduate Assistant for the Hawaiian Theatre Program (Fall 2019–Spring 2022).

Lecturer THEA 101 (Spring 2020).

Artist Intensive Training (April 2019).

Teaching Assistant for Nā Ko‘oko‘o ES 455C & ES 496 (Spring and Summer 2019).

Hawaiian Language Tutor at Native Hawaiian Student Services (Fall 2016–Spring 2019).

Writing Center Tutor at the UH Mānoa Writing Center (Fall 2017–Spring 2018).

### **Lāhui Work (Community and Leadership Experience)**

Mo‘olono and Kua for the Protect Kaho‘olawe ‘Ohana. 2003–present.

*No Kākou, Na Kākou: Collective Conversations on our Obligations to ‘Ōiwi Knowledge Stewardship.* July 2024.

Hui Manamana Board Member for Papahānaumokuākea Marine National Monument Cultural Working Group. 2021–present.

- Overseeing the Federal Migratory Bird Permit that facilitates cultural practitioner access to iwi uluna and hulu of the mōli, ka‘upu, and koa‘e ‘ula.

### **University Service**

Curriculum Committee Co-Chair, Kamakakūokalani Center for Hawaiian Studies. Spring 2026–present.

Curriculum Committee, Kamakakūokalani Center for Hawaiian Studies. Fall 2024–present.

Graduate Personnel Committee, Department of English. Spring 2024–Fall 2024.

### **Courses Taught**

HWST 640 - Mo‘olelo ‘Ōiwi

HAW 485 - Haku Hanakeaka. Fall 2025.

HWST 390 - Issues in Modern Hawaii. Summer 2025.

HWST 107 - Hawai‘i: Center of the Pacific. Fall 2024, Spring 2025, Fall 2025.

ENG 272 - Introduction to Literary Studies: Mo‘olelo & Ka‘ao. Spring 2024.

ENG 100 - Composition I. Fall 2022–Spring 2024.

THEA 101 - Intro to World Drama & Theatre. Spring 2020.

## Publications

Keala, Kaipulaumakaniolono, Wyatt Souza, Maluhia Low and Hilina‘iikaponoaupunioumialiloa Sai-Dudoit. *Hō ʻīnana, Ho ʻōla: Reanimating Graduate Research*, part of Native Hawaiian Student Services’ Hale Pa‘i Student Publication project. Projected publication January 2026.

Keala, Kaipulaumakaniolono. “He Leo Aloha.” Edited by Marc Maulfort & Tammy Haili‘ōpua Baker. *Hana Keaka: Performing Hawaiian Theatre*. Peter Lang. In-progress, projected publication Fall 2026.

Keala, Kaipulaumakaniolono. *Kulāiwi*. Bamboo Ridge Press. Under Review.

Baker, Kaipulaumakaniolono. “Hi‘ipoi Kū,” “Aloha Pu‘uhuluhulu,” & “No Luna e Ka Hale Kapu.” *Ōiwi: A Native Hawaiian Journal: Mana Mauna*, Volume 5. Under Review.

Keala, Kaipulaumakaniolono. “Theorizing the Kanaka: Kapu, Noa and a Commitment for Generations.” *Approaches to Hawai‘i Philosophy*. Edited by Michael Kaulana Ing. Under review.

Keala, Kaipulaumakaniolono. “He Moku ke Kanaka: Mo‘okū‘auhau as a Theory of a Subject and its Implications.” *The Pluralist: The Journal of the Society for the Advancement of American Philosophy Special Issue*. Edited by Celia Bradwell-Jones. Forthcoming.

Keala, Kaipulaumakaniolono, Davianna Pōmaika‘i McGregor and Hinaikawaihi‘ilei Keala. “La‘a, Ma‘a, Pa‘a: Sanctify, Sustain, Solidify,” *Ka Wai Ola*.  
<https://kawaiola.news/cover/laa-maa-paa/>

Keala, Kaipulaumakaniolono. “Is ‘Ike Hawai‘i (Hawaiian Knowledge) Philosophy? A Symposium on the Possibilities of Hawai‘i Philosophy.” *Journal of World Philosophies*, Volume 10, No. 1, IU Press Journals, Summer 2025.  
<https://scholarworks.iu.edu/iupjournals/index.php/jwp/article/view/8741>

Baker, Kaipulaumakaniolono. “Ua Mau ka Hana Keaka.” *Noi‘i Nowelo - A Survey of Hawaiian & Indigenous Performance*. Edited by Tammy Haili‘ōpua Baker and Lorenzo Perillo. ANNO Press, 2025.

Baker, Kaipulaumakaniolono. “Nā Mele Ko‘oko‘o: How Mele Serve as the Ko‘oko‘o of Mo‘olelo.” *Mo‘olelo: The Foundation of Hawaiian Knowledge*. Hawai‘inuiākea Book Series, University of Hawai‘i Press 2023.

Translator. *My Health Story*. Native Hawaiian Health App.

Editor, contributor and graphic designer. *Puke Ha 'awina No Ho 'oilina*. Hawaiian Theatre Program. April 2022.

Editor, contributor and graphic designer. *Hawai 'i Nō Ka 'Oi Edward Sakamoto Celebration Play Guide*. Hawaiian Theatre Program. 2022.

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1cgkxBFUxpf6TYxJz-CCWFmN3NbxKXTqh/view?usp=sharing>

Editor and chief writer. *Kauala 'a o Wa 'ahila*. The official newsletter of the Hawaiian Theatre Program is published and distributed once a semester. Here are links to our past issues: [Hilo, Welehu, 2020](#), ['Olepau, Welo, 2021](#), and [Hua, Welehu, 2021](#).

Editor, contributor and graphic designer. *Puke Ha 'awina No He Leo Aloha*. Hawaiian Theatre Program. 2021.

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/16ULuzHHIfxqEzbKzxLAJCT8pjQTpB7SB/view?usp=drivesdk>

Editor and graphic designer. *I am Lot Lane Play Guide*. Hawaiian Theatre Program. 2020.

<http://manoa.hawaii.edu/hanakeaka/wp-content/uploads/sites/44/2020/12/I-Am-Lot-Lane-Ed-Guide-PAU.pdf>

Editor, contributor and graphic designer. *'Au 'a 'ia E Kama Iā Nūioka Tour Guide*. Hawaiian Theatre Program. 2020.

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/190BwBNpI7xbnDs1RebxLOLibi7e1aCCW/view?usp=drivesdk>

Editor, contributor and graphic designer. *Puke Ha 'awina No 'Au 'a 'ia: Holding On*. Hawaiian Theatre Program. 2019.

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1-U8P9p-HopkXLq3uJybWtSAIQhOrqw6X/view?usp=drivesdk>

Contributor. "Stereotyping Kanaka Maoli: A Stewing Deterrent." *Mānoa Horizons*, Vol. 2, 2017, pp. 171-175. University of Hawai'i at Mānoa.

Contributor. "Fat Boy Tetris." *Ho 'okumu*, Kamehameha Publishing. May 2016.

### **Speeches, Showcases, Conference Presentations**

Invited presentation by Native Hawaiian Student Services. “Ka Mo‘olelo Hawai‘i Kahiko ‘O Ka ‘Aikapu me ona mau Mō‘ali Huli Kanaka.” *The Bookshelf Series*. 17 September 2025. <https://vimeo.com/1119972037?fl=pl&fe=sh>

Waha ‘Ōlelo (MC). *Hō‘ike 2025–Ka Huaka ‘i a Hi ‘iakaikapoliopole ma Wai‘anae*. Ka Waihona a ka Na‘auao. 2 May 2025.

Waha ‘Ōlelo (MC). *Pai ka Leo 2025*. Kapi‘olani Community College. 25 January 2025.

Invited discussant by Kaho‘okahi Kanuha. *Mai ka Pūnana Mai*, a podcast by ‘Aha Pūnana Leo. 25 March 2025. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=t73r8ZencRc>

“Kaluaiko‘olau: The Costs of Desire and Lacanian Ethics.” *NAISA 2024 Bådåddjo/Buvvda/Bodø*. Nord University, Bodø. July 2024.

Invited to do an Abstract Workshop Presentation by Native Hawaiian Student Services. 28 February 2024.

Invited Panelist by Nā Leo Kāko‘o o Maui. “Lonoikamakahiki: A Brief History of Makahiki in Kaiapuni by Kahele Dukelow.” 16 January 2024.

Invited Chanter by the Edith Kanaka‘ole Foundation. *E Hō Mai ka ‘Ike: E E Kūpina ‘i, E Kūwawā, E Kūhailimoe, Grow the Legacy, Lift the Voice, Ascend the Vision*. Bishop Museum. 17 November 2023.

Invited discussant by Professor Kamana Beamer. “Kapu: Sacred Relationships Between Land & People.” *Mo‘olelo Matters*, Aloha Kuamo‘o ‘Āina with Kamana Beamer. 28 September 2023. <https://www.kuamoo.org/moolelo-matters/>

Guest Lecture invited by Professor Sean Smith. “An Overview of Hawaiian Philosophy.” *Introduction to World Philosophy I* (PHIL 130). 4 September 2023. [https://drive.google.com/file/d/1r2ZWVRdqPY6ie1d\\_AFN8SNKhPuEvIK13/view?usp=sharing](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1r2ZWVRdqPY6ie1d_AFN8SNKhPuEvIK13/view?usp=sharing)

“Ke Kanaka Ho‘okanaka: Outlining a Theory of a Hawaiian Subject.” *NAISA 2023 Tkaronto*. University of Toronto. Toronto, Canada. 12 May 2023.

“Ho‘okanaka: Hawaiian Subjectivization in Ceremony.” *Islands in Relations: Conflicts, Sustainability, and Peace*. The International Geographical Union (IGU) Thematic Conference. Osaka Metropolitan University. Osaka, Japan. 5 April 2023.

“He Kauwā ke Kanaka, He Ali‘i ka ‘Āina: An Inquiry into Subjectivity.” Lāhui Hawai‘i Research Center Student Conference. 1 April 2023.

Colloquium Presenter. “The Function of the Other in Kevin Quashie’s Oneness.” UH Mānoa English Department Colloquia. 27 October 2022.

Reflections of Native Voices - invitation to present *He Leo Aloha* as a part of the Native Theatre Festival in New York City, Summer 2022.

Consortium of Asian American Theater Artists (CAATA) - invitation to present *He Leo Aloha* as a part of CAATA’s Virtual Festival Showcase of new artists, May 2022.

“Hula Ki‘i,” invited guest lecture in Professor Mark Branners THEA 476: Puppetry Course. March, 2022.

Invited discussant by Waiwai Collective. “‘Awa and Art // Protect Kaho‘olawe ‘Ohana,” 17 February 2022. <https://www.facebook.com/watch/?v=1017875018798690>

“History of Hawaiian Performance” guest lecture presented to professors Lurana O’Malley and Kirstin Pauka’s THEA 411 & THEA 312. Spring 2021, Fall 2021, Spring 2022.

“Hana Keaka ma ka Lumi Papa,” invited presentation to Kamehameha Schools kumu for professional development. 29 November 2021.

“Hawaiian Language Revitalization” guest lecture presented to professor Nitana Hicks Greendeer’s ETHN1750X, “Language Revitalization” course at Brown University. Fall 2019 & 2021.

Invited discussant for “Weaving Voices: Stopped the Bombing 30th Anniversary Kahoolawe Aloha Aina.” Center for Oral Histories. 27 October 2020.

“Kūkulu ka Pahu Kapu a ka Leo: Interpellation and Ideology Construction in ‘Aha Maunakea” invited keynote speaker at the University of California at Santa Barbra *American Indian and Indigenous Cultural Resource Conference*. February, 2020.

“Hana Keaka Hawai‘i” presented at the Kamehameha Schools in a symposium celebrating Hawaiian agency and aloha ‘āina. October, 2019.

“Hana Keaka Workshop” presented at Words@Mānoa. Invited by English faculty Mahea Ahia. October, 2019.

“Kanaloa Kānaka i Kanaloa.” Presented at *He Au Honua* conference hosted by the University of Hawai‘i Maui College. March, 2019.

“He ‘Ale Lau Loa” presented at the symposium *The Space in Between* at the University of Hong Kong. December, 2018.

“Indigenous Peoples: Sovereignty, Sustainability, and Reconciliation Fulbright Colloquium,” March, 2018.

- I was invited by Fulbright Canada in conjunction with the UH College of Social Sciences to participate in the annual Hawai‘i island Colloquium, this particular one focused on Indigenous Sovereignty.

“Mo‘olelo and the Power of Media ‘Ōlelo Hawai‘i.” A speech invited by Kamehameha Schools Kapālama to be given to four English classes and a film class on the importance of the production of Hawaiian language stories and media. February, 2018.

“Kanaloa Kānaka i Kanaloa,” Lāhui Hawai‘i Research Center Student Conference. November, 2017 at the Hālau o Haumea at Kamakakūokalani.

- The panel focused on how Hawaiian Language acquisition is aided by complete immersion in a cultural space like Kanaloa Kaho‘olawe.

“Matariki ki Rangiātea.” I was invited along with my fellow Mo‘olono to join in the Matariki rituals of Maori in Aotearoa, New Zealand. July, 2017 on Rangiātea, Te Awamutu.

“Lā‘ieikawai Roundtable Presentation.” Presented at *He Manawa Whenua* at the University of Waikato in 2015.

“Lonoikamakahiki,” a speech invited by the Edith Kanaka‘ole Foundation for their Papakūmakawalu session, I spoke alongside my fellow Mo‘olono of the Makahiki ceremonies on Kaho‘olawe. February, 2016.

“Waha‘ōlelo Hō‘ike.” Narrator for the Showcase at Song Contest 2013.

“Introduction to Women’s Competition,” speech at Song Contest 2012.

## **Mele Compositions**

“Hawai‘i Ailana.” invited by Kaumakaiwa Kanaka‘ole to be a featured artist on her upcoming album (In-Progress).

“Ku‘u Mākua i ka Ua Nāulu” composed in honor of Uncle Emmett Aluli, invited to perform by the Edith Kanaka‘ole Foundation. Performed at *E Hō Mai ka ‘Ike: E Kūpina ‘i, E Kūwawā, E Kūhailimoe, Grow the Legacy, Lift the Voice, Ascend the Vision*. Bishop Museum. 17 November 2023.

Nā Mele o *He Leo Aloha*. I composed a suite of mele for my thesis production, *He Leo Aloha*. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8bKGj1lbMG8>

“Kuano‘o.” Featured on Ikaakamai’s single “Kuano‘o”. Available now on Amazon, Shazam, Youtube and Spotify. October, 2020.

“Hōkūle‘a Mālama Honua,” song by Kapena. Invited to lead the chanting of “Auē Ua Hiti Ē” on their single. December, 2017 on the CD *Hōkūle‘a Mālama Honua*.

“Mahamaha Mānoa,” *Art of the Chanter*. Invited by Keali‘i Reichel and Kaumakaiwa Kanaka‘ole to showcase the chanting a mele I composed for Native Hawaiian Student Services. Kepakemapa, 2017 at Kennedy Theatre.

“Mele Ko‘oko‘o.” Asked by Dr. Kāwika Tengan to compose a song for our Native Hawaiian Leadership cohort Nā Ko‘oko‘o. June, 2017.

“Mahamaha Mānoa.” Requested by Dr. Willy Kauai to compose a chant in honor of the Kanalu Young Center for Native Hawaiian Student Services. Januali, 2017. Presented at the *Art of the Chanter* showcase curated by Keali‘i Reichel and Kaumakaiwa Kanaka‘ole in October of 2017.

“Kamalelekū o Kaliuwa‘a” and “O‘ahu a Kama.” Invited by Kumu Hula Puananiopaoakalani Bento to compose two songs in collaboration with Professor Haili‘ōpua Baker. For Ka Pā Hula o ka Lei Lehua, Merrie Monarch, 2017.

“Mele Lā Kū‘oko‘a.” Requested by ‘Ilima Long for an event held by Native Hawaiian Student Services in which we hosted Hawaiian immersion students to celebrate Hawaiian Independence Day. (Spring 2017).