

27th ANNUAL KĪ HŌ‘ALU FESTIVAL
Sunday, June 24, 2018 1-7 pm FREE!
A&B Amphitheater | Maui Arts & Cultural Center
Showcasing some of Hawai‘i’s favorite slack key guitarists

Musician background / bio notes (alphabetical order)



Kevin Brown Traditional slack key guitarist & Hawaiian vocalist, Kevin Brown, is the leader of the popular Maui group Ola Hou. One of Hawaii's finest musicians and instructors, his easy-going style has deeply influenced a generation of musicians both in Hawaii and on the mainland. Kevin's father, Harry, was a popular Hawaiian musician and gave Kevin and his brother, Sheldon, a sound foundation for 'ukulele, guitar, and traditional Hawaiian songs. Kevin also taught slack key guitar for 14 years at Maui's Baldwin High School. He now sometimes teaches at UH Maui College and is a mentor in the Institute of Hawaiian Music.



Ken Emerson Ken Emerson is a highly regarded traditional Hawaiian slack-key and steel guitarist. His unique playing style reflects the Hawaiian guitar's grassroots origins. For over 30 years Emerson has helped lead the way in resurrecting the traditions of vintage Hawaii music, tapping into classic jazz and blues influences along the way.



Aja Gamble Born and raised on the island of O‘ahu, Aja started playing ‘ukulele at the age of six and then gradually moved up to guitar at the age of ten. Her tutu began teaching her kī hō‘alu when she was twelve and it has since turned into a passion. She graduated from St. Francis High School and further pursued her education at HPU where she received a BSBA in Business Entrepreneurial Studies. She hopes to one day share her culture with the world through a passion for kī hō‘alu and Hawaiian music.



Halemanu An award winning stellar live performer, Halemanu fuses Hawaiian, jazz, rock, funk, slack key and world music. Whether performing live or producing in the studio, Halemanu's unique musical vision reaches far beyond conventional borders, creating music that can be enjoyed by all. His album, *So The Story Goes*, won the 2018 Nā Hōkū Hanohano Award for Island Music Album Of The Year.



Ho‘okena Horace K. Dudoit III, Chris Kamaka and Glen H.K. Smith are the group members, and owners of their own record label, Huliau. Ho‘okena is a mainstay on the island music scene, and is synonymous with high quality Hawaiian music. Since 1986, Ho‘okena has produced 12 CDs, with their latest: *Ho‘okena 3.0*. They travel extensively to promote Hawai‘i's rich heritage.



Stephen Inglis Born and raised on the slopes of Palolo Valley, Stephen was an early member of the Honolulu Boys Choir. Since then, he has progressed through various forms of music including improv rock, reggae/ska, and was lead guitarist in the band House of Spirits with Bill Kreutzmann, the drummer for the Grateful Dead. Stephen is hooked on kī hō‘alu and has become known as one of the most diverse artists in Hawai‘i.



Kamuela Kahoano A singer/songwriter and music producer from Honolulu, Oahu, Kamuela comes from a family of entertainers; his music has elements of acoustic, folk, indie, and alternative with Hawaiian influences. He performs solo, and was formerly the lead singer of the band Analog(ic). He is an accomplished player of both the ukulele and guitar, playing both left-handed; he also plays the djembe. His debut album, *Green Light Go*, was released in 2007, and *Stream Dreams* was released in 2010.



George Kahumoku Jr. George is a farmer, poet, teacher, performer and composer, well-versed in the language of slack key. He is dedicated to the art form and shares it with others around the world. His renowned annual Hawaiian Slack Key Masters Workshops are as much a cultural immersion as they are lessons in slack key techniques.



Dwight Kanae A dedicated musician and Hawaiian music addict, Dwight has performed on Hawai'i stages for over three decades with such luminaries as Peter Moon, Del Beazley, David Kahiapo and more. He is an original member of the group 3-D's with Beazley and Kahiapo. Dwight released his own CD *Hā'iku*, and appears on several slack key guitar compilation albums.



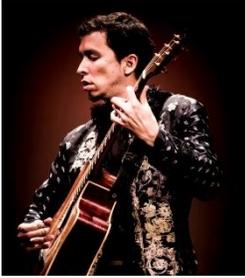
Donald Kaulia A son of Waianae, Donald ran with a group of guys in high school that included Bruddah Iz and Del Beazley. It was there that he honed his musical skills on slack key guitar, and learned Hawaiian lyrics. Donald has released several CDs, including his solo slack key project, *Wahine Slack Key* in 2009. Donald performs regularly at Huggo's in Kailua-Kona, and at hotels on the Kohala Coast of Hawai'i Island.



George Kuo Known as one of Hawai'i's premiere slack key guitar artists, playing in the traditional *nahenahe* (sweet, soothing) style, he bridges today's generation with the older generations. George has been twice recognized with excellence in recording achievement by the Hawai'i Academy of Recording Arts, Nā Hōkū Hanohano Awards.



Sonny Lim Elmer "Sonny" Lim is part of the musical Lim Family from Waimea (Kamuela) on the Big Island of Hawai'i. His father was a paniolo on the Parker Ranch; in this respect, Sonny carries on the slack key tradition born amongst Waimea cowboys over a hundred years earlier. Sonny learned to play under slack key master Fred Punahoa. In addition to playing with the Lim Family, Sonny played with the Makaha Sons of Ni'ihau, and he has shared the stage with many other Hawai'i greats. He recorded on the Grammy-winning album, *Slack Key Guitar Volume 2*, as well as his own solo debut album.



Makana Born and raised in Hawai'i, Makana is an internationally acclaimed guitarist, singer, composer and activist who is widely known for lending his musical talent for social change. Makana's career is incredibly diverse: he has been a TEDx talk presenter, and his guitar playing has been featured on three Grammy-nominated albums, including the soundtrack of the Academy-Award winning film *The Descendants*. Makana's captivating and wide-ranging performance style has led him to share the stage with many celebrities and perform in venues ranging from Asian and European opera houses to The White House.



Brother Noland An 'impact' player in Hawai'i's music scene, always out in front, changing and pushing the music to unexpected places. He is often credited with the birth of Jawaiian music with his first smash hit, "Coconut Girl." But like all true innovators, Noland cannot be pigeon holed. He loves the Jawaiian feel, but can't restrict himself to only one kind of music. He excels in traditional Hawaiian music, slack key, and Hawaiian swing music because good music, no matter the genre makes him feel good. He was honored with a Slack Key Lifetime Achievement Award at the 2018 Nā Hōkū Hanohano ceremonies.



Ian O'Sullivan A Kamehameha graduate and UH alumni, Ian became the first guitarist from Hawaii to get a Masters in Guitar from Yale University. He is a classically-trained guitarist and composer from the North Shore of O'ahu. He is also well versed in Hawaiian slack-key guitar and the 'ukulele. Ian's solo debut album is *Born and Raised*, new music written for solo classical guitar by local composers Byron Yasui, Jeff Peterson, Darin Au, Michael Foumai, Bailey Matsuda and his own works. Ian is a lecturer in classical guitar at the University of Hawai'i.



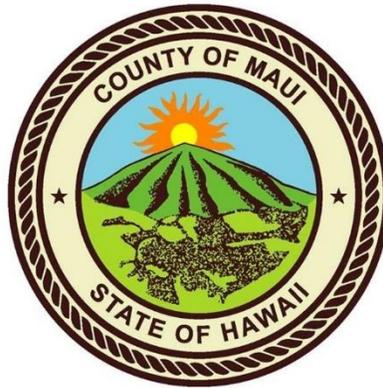
Emma Rose Raised in the City of Angels by movie director parents in Hollywood, Emma annually treks to Maui to absorb the island spirit into her original music. She is a budding young artist with a story to tell - and a platinum brick road ahead of her..



Paul Togioka Recognized as Kaua'i's finest slack key guitar artist, Paul utilizes classic style along with his creativity and inventiveness to mark him as the 'Main Man' of slack key on the Garden Island. A veteran recording artist, Paul has won Hawai'i Music Awards for Best Slack Key Album, is on the award-winning *Hawaiian Slack Key Kings* CD, and has releases of his own: *Kī hō'alu Inn* and *Here, There & Everywhere*.



Jim West James "Kimo" West is a Canadian guitarist best known for working with Weird Al Yankovic; he can be heard and seen on all of Yankovic's videos, albums, and concerts since 1984. He is also a composer for film and television, and produced a number of CDs for independent artists. He has released seven solo slack-key guitar albums and performs regularly at concerts and festivals.



MAYORAL PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, the Kī Hō‘alu Festival will be held at the Maui Arts & Cultural Center on Sunday, June 24, 2018 and features some of the world’s greatest slack key guitars; and...

WHEREAS, Kī Hō‘alu – as it is known in Hawai‘i – refers to the solo finger-picked style unique to the State of Hawai‘i; and...

WHEREAS, as in acoustic guitar tradition, in slack key the strings are “slacked” to produce many different tunings, each of which produces a lingering sound behind the melody with a characteristic resonance and fingering; and...

WHEREAS, slack key guitar-playing has emerged as a significant artistic force that is part of our cultural heritage.

NOW THEREFORE: I, Alan M. Arakawa, Mayor of the County of Maui, have the distinct honor of proclaiming and do hereby proclaim June 22-29, 2018 as

Kī Hō‘alu Slack Key Guitar Festival Week

throughout the County of Maui in appreciation of the art of slack key guitar-playing and in recognition of the many talented artists who are continuing our heritage through the perpetuation of Kī Hō‘alu traditions.
