

Hui No'eau Visual Arts Center
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East Maui Watershed Partnership
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Mālama Wao Akua 2026

September 11 – November 6

A Collaborative Exhibition by Hui No'eau Visual Arts Center & East Maui Watershed Partnership

IMPORTANT DATES

In-Person Exhibition Info Session: Tuesday, June 9th / 5-6pm (at Hui No'eau)

Online Exhibition Info Session: Thursday, July 2nd / 1pm (via zoom)

This presentation, held by East Maui Watershed Partnership, will inform artists, professional and amateur, on what "Native to Maui Nui" means. It will explain what it means to enter this exhibit and provide ideas of how to research species acceptable for this exhibit. EMWP and Hui staff will be available for questions about the exhibit or to confirm species you might already have in mind.

Online Registration: August 18th – September 1st

Online Priority Registration Deadline: Tuesday, August 25th at midnight

Artwork Receiving Day: Tuesday, September 1st / 9am-6pm (Hui No'eau)

Selection Notification (via website): by Thursday, September 3rd by 6pm

Pick-up of Non-selected Work: Friday, September 4th / 9am-4pm

Pick-up of Selected Work: Saturday, November 7th / 9am-4pm

Opening Reception: Friday, September 11th / 5-8pm

More details to come!

EXHIBITION DESCRIPTION

Mālama Wao Akua (*Caring for the Realm of the Gods*) is a juried art exhibition celebrating the native species of Maui Nui (Maui, Lana'i, Moloka'i, Kaho'olawe). Hui No'eau Visual Arts Center is thrilled to collaborate with East Maui Watershed Partnership for the 22nd annual Mālama Wao Akua to raise awareness about the importance of protecting native species and the forested upper regions of our islands' watersheds. Selected artwork should be successful in sharing knowledge of the watersheds and native species with others in a meaningful way. Artwork will also be selected based upon several criteria, including originality of concept, creativity, technique, professionalism, and presentation. We hope that Maui Nui artists of all ages will explore our watersheds and express the value that native species have within our daily lives. This exhibition is sure to provide powerful visuals that celebrate Maui's native plant and animal life. A jurying team with expertise in both art and conservation will select from among the pool of entries. Works in any medium are welcome!

JURORS

A jurying team with expertise in both art and conservation will select from among the entries. Jurors will be announced soon!

ELIGIBILITY & CONDITIONS

All entries must be the artist's original work created within the past two years (September 2024-September 2026). Work may not be previously shown in any other exhibit, gallery, venue, or website. Completed work cannot have been posted on social media prior to selection notification. Reproductions and giclées are not eligible.

Artists must be residents of Maui Nui (Maui, Lana'i, Kaho'olawe, Moloka'i).

IMPORTANT: The main subject of your piece(s) must be either a Maui Nui native species OR a landscape highlighting a Maui Nui native species. Native coral reef species (to a depth of approx. 200 ft.), waterscapes, streams, and estuaries are eligible. Extinct Maui Nui native species are also acceptable. Subjects may also include people working to protect Maui's native species and native habitats. Cultural or human components in the piece are acceptable as long as they complement the major theme of native species.

Subjects from beyond the coral reef, including deep ocean, WILL NOT be accepted. Artwork **highlighting** non-native species, including Polynesian introductions, WILL NOT be accepted. Native species exclusively endemic to other Hawaiian Islands WILL NOT be accepted. Please visit malamawaoakua.org for ideas on where to find inspiration and what species are native to Maui Nui.

Remember: The definition used to describe a native species is an organism that naturally arrived to Hawai'i without the help of humans via the 3Ws (wind, waves, or wings). It can be endemic (found only in Hawai'i, including Maui Nui) or indigenous (native to Hawai'i and elsewhere).

*If you have any questions about whether your subject is native to Maui Nui or if it is eligible, please contact EMWP at pr@eastmauiwatershed.org or call (808)268-1475.

There are 4 entry divisions:

1. Adult
2. High School (Grades 9-12)
3. Middle School (Grades 6-8)
4. Elementary School (Grades K-5)

Artists may submit up to three (3) entries. Entries may be in any medium. The jurors decide the number of works selected for exhibition (may range from 30-90 pieces). Artwork must be ready for hanging or installation. No wet work, please. Framed pieces MUST have wire for hanging, NO sawtooth hangers. A stretched canvas with a wrapped edge may be considered framed. Artists may be asked to install a piece if it presents special hanging requirements; for installation entries, artists must submit a detailed sketch including dimensions & special materials to be provided. Please make adequate preparation for installing more complex works; installations should be completely installed in the gallery in 6 hours or less. The Hui and its jurors reserve the right to reject works due to toxic or dangerous materials, excessive size, weight, or difficulty in presentation.

Works without properly completed entry forms and labels WILL NOT be installed. Titles and prices will be listed as they appear on entry forms. The artist may not make changes after entry forms are received.

ENTRY FEE

Adults: The non-refundable entry fee is \$10 per piece for all entries received before Wednesday, August 26. The non-refundable entry is \$20 per piece for entries received after the priority registration deadline.

Youth: The non-refundable entry fee is \$5 per piece.

There will be no pre-qualification of eligibility of species prior to entry fee payment. All entries are non-refundable regardless of species eligibility.

LIABILITY

Although extreme care will be taken during the handling and display of all work submitted to the exhibition, Hui No'eau Visual Arts Center and East Maui Watershed Partnership are not responsible for the loss or damage of artwork and/or framing. All accepted artwork must remain in the gallery for the duration of the exhibition.

SALES

The Hui encourages artists to offer their work for sale during the exhibition. Proceeds from the sale of each artwork will be allocated as follows: 45% of the purchase price going to the artist, 45% to Hui No'eau Visual Arts Center, and 10% is donated to East Maui Watershed Partnership. Artists may also choose to donate an additional percentage or ALL of their profits as a tax-deductible gift to East Maui Watershed Partnership. Please list the retail price (as it should appear on the gallery label) for each submitted piece on the entry form. Hui No'eau and the artist share responsibility for the marketing of works for sale. Checks will be mailed 4-6 weeks after the close of the exhibition. In order to expedite the processing of artists' commission checks, we request that you provide us with a completed W-9 form at the time of entry (if the Hui does not have a current form on file for you already). If you are uncertain if the Hui has a W-9 form for you on file, please feel free to contact Exhibitions Manager Tori Speere (tori@huinoeau.com or 808-572-6560 ext. 23) prior to Receiving Day. Your kokua is much appreciated!

AWARDS

Jurors will select works to receive the following special recognition awards:

ADULT DIVISION:

Each juror will select a Juror's Choice and Honorable Mention from among the adult entries

KEIKI DIVISION:

Jurors will work together to select one artist from each of the three school divisions to receive special recognition.

SPECIAL AWARDS: (Selected from the entire exhibition):

- *Dr. Fern P. Duvall II Rarest Find:* Jurors give one award to the artist using the most unique species or habitat as their subject.
- *People's Choice:* Awarded by votes from gallery visitors.
- *Art of Conservation:* Jurors give one award to the artist that best captures the essence, theme, or message of conservation.

RETURN OF WORK

Non-selected work must be picked up from the Hui solarium by 4pm on Friday, September 4th. **Selected** work that was not sold must be picked up by 4pm on Saturday, November 7th. **NO LATE PICK UPS CAN BE ACCOMMODATED.** Please make special arrangements with friends or family or provide a pre-paid mailing slip/box if you cannot personally pick up your work on time. **The Hui reserves the right to charge \$5/day for any work remaining in the gallery after the pick-up deadline.** Selected work must remain in the gallery for the duration of the exhibition. There will be no exceptions.

INSPIRATION

Native or Not (and why does it matter?)

Hawai'i's native species make our islands unique! Many plants and animals traveled thousands of miles to get here and evolved specifically to adapt to our islands' environment. 90% of our native plants are found here and nowhere else in the world!

How can you tell what is native to Maui Nui?

- Attend the info session on Tuesday, June 9th at 5pm (in-person at Hui No'eau) or Thursday, July 2nd at 1pm (online).

- Join EMWP on a hike for artists. Dates will be announced soon and available on the exhibit websites for sign-up.
- Read a book or visit a website about native species.
- Join a volunteer group or visit places with native species.
- Find our list of native species resources of places to go, books to read and websites to visit at malamawaoakua.org/artist-resources.
- Friend eastmauiwatershed on Facebook, Instagram @eastmauiwp & @malamwaoakua, and Twitter @emwpinfo.
- Contact EMWP and ask. (They are friendly!) pr@eastmauiwatershed.org

FOR SCHOOL TEACHERS

MWA is a great opportunity to build a lesson around learning about the formation of the islands and the arrival of species, while having students create native species themed artwork. Online entry forms will be available on huinoeau.com/exhibitions or malamawaoakua.org on August 18th.

Please complete an online entry form to account for all your students' entries. *Note: Student artwork will be considered "not for sale" unless otherwise marked.*

Please plan to have your students' work picked up on Friday, September 4th (if NOT selected) or Saturday, November 7th (if selected) from 9am-4pm.

Tips for teachers

There are three keiki divisions separated into Elementary School, Middle School, and High School. Remember, there is a \$5 entry fee for each entry in the keiki division. Not all artwork entered will be selected for the show. This is a JURIED EXHIBITION.

- **Consider having a contest within your class or school first, then enter the winning pieces from your contest to compete with the entries from other schools and individuals.**
- Invite EMWP to come as a guest speaker. They will give a presentation about Hawaiian rainforest ecology.
- Check to make sure your students' entries qualify.
Native birds, insects, plants or landscapes of native species of Maui are OK. Coral reef species are OK too. Polynesian introductions and other non-native species are NOT OK.
- Please make all pieces framed and display ready.

Questions? Please feel free to contact us!

Hui No'eau Visual Arts Center

Exhibitions Manager – Tori Speere at (808) 572-6560 ext. 23 or tori@huinoeau.com

East Maui Watershed Partnership

Community Outreach & Education Liaison - Allison Borell at (808) 268-1475 or pr@eastmauiwatershed.org

Hui No'eau Visual Arts Center is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization supported by members and donations.