Program Guide
2012

January 4-8, 2012
Waimea, Mauna Kea Resort + Kohala Coast

January 10-13, 2012
Four Seasons Resort Hualalai
Five volcanoes comprise the Big Island, including the still active Kilauea, which sits at the heart of Volcanoes National Park. Together, Mauna Kea, Mauna Loa and Hualalai form the backdrop of the Kohala Coast, where stark lava fields meet turquoise waters and sandy beaches.

The Kohala Coast is an area rich in both Hawaiian history and sea life. Tropical fish, many of which are found nowhere else in the world, inhabit these reefs, along with Hawaiian hawksbill turtles, octopus, eel and smaller reef sharks.

Spinner dolphins rest in shallow bays, and during winter months, humpback whales delight visitors and locals alike with their acrobatic displays and beautiful song.

The town of Waimea, also known as Kamuela, sits in the saddle between the dry and green sides of the island. It is known as much for the paniolo culture that lends character to the town as for the weather patterns ever shifting between rain, mist and sun.
about the festival

USING THE PROGRAM
All film screenings, presentations, and special events are listed by day and venue in the festival schedule. Each Breakfast Talk location is listed along with its description in the Breakfast Talk section of the program.

Films are grouped with other films and/or speakers into film blocks, as shown in the schedule. When filmmakers will be present for discussion after the film, this is noted by ‘Q&A.’

HOSPITALITY DESK
The Hospitality Desk is located in the lobby of the Kahilu Theatre. Passes are available for pick-up at the Hospitality Desk starting on January 4th at 9am. Passes may be purchased here, along with other items. The Hospitality Desk is available to answer questions, and provide additional information.

HOURS OF OPERATION
Wednesday, January 4th: 9am – 9pm
Thursday, January 5th: 9am – 9pm
Friday, January 6th: 9am – 9pm
Saturday, January 7th: 9am – 9pm
Sunday, January 8th: 9am – 9pm

THEATRE ENTRY
Please remember to wear your passes. Festival volunteers will open doors for seating 20 minutes prior to each show. The theatre will be cleared between screenings.

TBAs (TO BE ANNOUNCED)
A certain number of shows will be listed as TBAs. The most popular films from the festival will be shown at this time, along with a few films pending at publication. TBA schedules and special screenings will be available at the Hospitality Desk starting on Saturday morning.

THINGS TO REMEMBER
● Wear your pass
● Breakfast Talks start at 8:15am, and include Starbucks coffee and pastries
● Mauna Kea Beach Hotel, Hapuna Beach Prince Hotel, the Fairmont Orchid, and the Four Seasons Resort Hualalai are all offering wonderful discounts to festival attendees. Ask for the Waimea Ocean Film Festival Rate when inquiring.

THE PASS SYSTEM
The pass system enables the festival to organize a dynamic event that includes films, speakers, presentations, breakfast talks and other activities. The pass system is the glue that holds the festival together and allows for a rich and complex content, with one aspect woven together with the next.

While film and event passes provide access for periods of time over the festival, the Waimea Six Punch Pass includes access to six film or presentation blocks, and also includes breakfast talks and sunrise activities. This pass may be shared, and is valid from January 5th to January 8th, 2012.

While the festival relies on the pass system to operate, remaining seats for films and presentations will be opened for individual ticket purchase 10 minutes prior to each show for exact change. To volunteer for a festival pass, or for more information, please talk with the Hospitality Desk, visit the website at www.waimeaoceanfilm.org, or contact the festival office at 808-854-6095.

aloha
Welcome to the second annual Waimea Ocean Film Festival. It is a great pleasure to welcome you back for a very exciting lineup of 37 exceptional and award-winning films that fall into the general categories of ocean environment, ocean experience and island culture.

Back by popular request, and for those unable to attend last year, are six of the most popular and powerful films from the 2011 program. Added to these is a full lineup of beautiful, thought provoking, inspiring and action packed films, along with some very special guests, filmmakers, presentations and exhibits.

Among these, and arguably one of the greatest film producers of our time, is Jake Eberts. We are very fortunate to have him join us again this year, to share stories about his work and the production of Disneynature’s Oceans.

In addition, the stunning exhibit documenting the first voyage of Hokule’a in 1976 will be on display at Kahilu Theatre through the month of January. Members of Na Ka Lai Wa’a have worked to bring added meaning and context to the exhibit by collecting pieces relevant to the journey, and will offer a blessing ceremony for the exhibit.

Energy consumption, fishing practices and plastic use will continue to be underlying themes throughout the festival, both in films and presentations, given their impact on the health of the ocean and the well-being of those whose lives are entwined with the sea.

As part of this, and as an undercurrent to all we do, are films that explore the philosophies, thought and social interactions that affect the way in which we relate to the land, the sea, and the world around us.

More than about any individual film, the festival is designed to be an immersive experience, with films, presentations and speakers relating to each other, and the opportunity for dialogue among participants woven into the structure.

A very big Mahalo to everyone in the community who has contributed to the festival. The festival comes together as a result of a concerted, year-round effort, and is only possible with the support of festival sponsors and contributors, and the community members who have stepped forward to volunteer their time. I hope you enjoy.

Mahalo nui loa,
Tania Howard
Founder and Director

 Mahalo nui loa, Tania Howard Founder and Director
KOHALA COAST

Four Seasons Resort Hualalai
72-100 Kal'upulehu Drive
The Four Seasons Resort Hualalai at Historic Ka’upulehu captures the essence of Hawaiian design, culture and tradition and radiates understated elegance. The resort will host the gala opening on January 4th, as well as the festival itself again Jan. 10th–13th.

Kawaihae Harbor
Kawaihae Road and Highway 270
The first ships to bring horses and cattle to the Big Island docked at Kawaihae Harbor. Today, the harbor permits much larger sea craft and is home to the Kawaihae Canoe Club and the Makali’i. Visit the canoe club just past the harbor for outrigger canoe paddling lessons, and the halau within the harbor for a breakfast talk around the Makali’i.

Mauna Kea Beach Hotel
62-100 Mauna Kea Beach Drive
The Mauna Kea Beach Hotel, built in 1965 by Laurence S. Rockefeller, epitomizes the beauty of Hawaii’i and the spirit of aloha. Breakfast talks will take place in the Garden Room, and sunrise yoga, and the Taste of Big Island will take place on the Mauna Kea grounds.

host venues

WAIMEA

Hawai’i Preparatory Academy (HPA)
65-1692 Kohala Mountain Road
The Gates Performing Arts Center at the Hawai’i Preparatory Academy (HPA) is a 360-seat theatre at the heart of the Academy’s performing arts program. Film screenings and presentations are scheduled at Gates throughout the festival weekend.

Kahilu Theatre
67-1186 Lindsey Road
The Kahilu Theatre, a 490-seat performing arts theatre in the center of Waimea town, provides a home for the presentation, support, education and promotion of the performing arts and is billed as the Big Island’s premier cultural resource. The theatre will host the festival Hospitality Center, breakfast talks, film screenings and presentations.

Parker School Theatre
65-1224 Lindsey Road
Originally built in 1920 on the Parker Ranch as an entertainment center for ranch residents and workers, the 280-seat Parker School Theatre has been renovated over the decades but still maintains its charms of old. Festival attendees may enjoy film screenings and presentations at this venue.

Wishard Gallery and Starbucks
Parker Ranch Center, 67-1186 Mamalahoa Hwy D-104

Kohala Coast

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Following in the pathway of the Ancestors means finding a path of your own.

Family of the Wa’a

Kimokeo Kapahulehua is a man with a kuleana; a promise to keep. Not just to his uncle Kavika or Hawaii, but to all people and generations, past and future. His kuleana is to link the Hawaiian islands together like a lei. And for the first time in recorded history, it will be done in an outrigger paddling canoe (wa’a): 6 years and 1750 miles later, he and his team find they have done more than complete their voyage to honor Kimokeo’s kuleana; they have become the Family of the Wa’a.

Chris Luedi, the General Manager of the Fairmont Orchid, is one of four paddlers who completed every leg of the 1750 mile voyage, along with Kimokeo Kapahulehua, Jamie Woodburn and Kendall Struxness.

The film is dedicated to Kendall Struxness who completed the entire journey from Hawai’i to Kure even as cancer threatened his very life. He passed away in April, 2011, just as this film was in its final edit. A man of enormous heart and courage, he is greatly missed.

“This voyage started with a dream of two men who set out to paddle the oceans, but over the years, the journey became larger than we could have imagined. It began as a physical challenge — paddling an outrigger canoe for many hours at a time — but quickly turned into a mental feat, a lesson in what life is all about. It taught us the meaning of our lives and showed us the insignificance of mankind in the vast universe. I can truly say that none of our lives will ever be the same again after this unbelievable journey — it did indeed become the journey of life.”

—CHRIS LUEDI
GENERAL MANAGER, THE FAIRMONT ORCHID

www.waimeaoceanfilm.org PROGRAM GUIDE 2012
**ARCTIC CLIFFHANGERS**  
Steve Smith, Julia Szucs (USA, 60 min)  
Arctic Cliffhangers is the story of the cliff-dwelling seabirds that summer in Canada’s northern waters. Clambering over rugged headlands and dangling into this precipitous and little-known world, a biologist explores the land with scientists and Inuit hunters, learning about how today’s vanishing sea ice is influencing marine life in Arctic waters, and altering the way of life of Northern peoples.

**BAG IT**  
Suzan Beraza (USA, 65 min)  
Among the many surprising facts in this film, is the one that Americans use 60,000 plastic bags every five minutes – and then throw them away. But where is “away?” Where do the bags and other plastics end up, and at what cost to our environment, marine life and human health? A surprisingly entertaining film asking important questions. 2011 Best Film Ocean Environment & People’s Choice Award.

**BALI: LIFE IS AN OFFERING**  
Kim Kindersley (Bali, 90 min)  
The word that comes up time and again when people speak of Bali is magic. It’s a magic stitched into the everyday fabric of Balinese lives. Celebrating the Balinese philosophical concept of Tri Hita Karana “harmony between the divine, mankind and nature,” Bali: Life is an Offering explores the profound natural beauty, graceful people and age-old spiritual traditions found on the Island of the Gods.

**BLUE SWAY**  
Jack McCoy (Australia, 5 min)  
Using footage filmed on location in Tahiti, and in collaboration with Sir Paul McCartney, surf filmmaker Jack McCoy creates a music video for a previously unreleased McCartney song, Blue Sway, bringing poetry into motion.

**CALL OF LIFE**  
Chera Van Burg (USA, 59 min)  
Through interviews with leading scientists, psychologists, anthropologists, philosophers, and indigenous and religious leaders, Call of Life explores the causes, scope, and potential effects of what scientists are starting to call the sixth mass extinction, a crisis more threatening than anything human beings have ever faced before.

**CHASING THE SWELL**  
Sachi Cunningham (USA, 31 min)  
**In person: Mark Healey**  
Chasing the Swell follows the top pros in the world as they catch the giant waves reaching Hawaii, California and Mexico during the record breaking El Niño season of 2010. The film follows this international tribe of wave riders to get a better sense of what is involved in chasing giants, and what it feels like to surf the big waves.
CHASING WATER
Pete McBride (USA, 17 min)
In person: Pete McBride
Follow the Colorado River, source to sea, with photographer Pete McBride as he follows the irrigation water that sustains his family’s Colorado ranch down river to the sea. Traversing 1,500 miles and draining seven states, the Colorado River supports over 30 million people. One of the most litigated rivers in the world, it no longer reaches the ocean.

THE CITY DARK
Ian Cheney (USA, 84 min)
In person: Ian Cheney
The City Dark is a feature documentary about light pollution and the disappearing night sky. After moving to New York City from rural Maine, filmmaker Ian Cheney asks a simple question, “Do we need the stars?” Cheney unravels the myriad implications of a globe glittering with lights in this definitive story of light pollution and the disappearing stars.

COME HELL OR HIGH WATER
Keith Malloy (USA, 42 min)
Keith Malloy’s debut film, Come Hell or High Water, shot primarily on 16mm focuses on the simplicity and beauty of bodysurfing. Keith explores the history and progression of the sport through its many unique characters. “It’s about taking a breath, and kicking your feet, in the big blue sea.”

DARK SIDE OF THE LENS
Mickey Smith (Ireland, 6 min)
Surfer and filmmaker Mickey Smith made this breathtaking video that summons up the most sublime sense of being alive and in touch with the world we inhabit. Smith worked with Allan Wilson to create this short film and together they logged hours of footage down the coastline of Ireland, Cornwall and Manchester.

THE EDDIE
Claire Gorman (Australia, 7 min)
In person: Solomon Aikau
The Eddie captures some of the action and the magic from the Quicksilver event in Memory of Eddie Aikau at Waimea Bay on December 9, 2009. This was a day to be remembered, with waves up to 60 feet, the top pros, and over 25,000 spectators. Winner, Greg Long says, “The respect and camaraderie in the lineup you don’t find in too many places in the world.”

EDDIE AIKAU: A HAWAIIAN HERO
Phil Arnone (USA, 48 min)
In person: Phil Arnone, Solomon Aikau
Pioneering big-wave surfer; fearless lifeguard; brother; heroic crewmember of Hōkūle‘a. Eddie Aikau was a legend in his own time. The way he lived his life- taking care of others- has captured the imaginations of people throughout Hawaii and beyond. Eddie Aikau: A Hawaiian Hero is a fitting tribute and lasting testament to this Hawaiian icon.
FAMILY OF THE WA’A
David Cummings (USA, 81 min)
In person: Kimokeo Kapahulehua and Chris Luedi
Kimokeo Kapahulehua is a man with a kuleana; a promise to keep. Not just to his uncle Kavika or Hawaii, but to all people and generations, past and future. His kuleana is to link all 1,750 miles of Hawaiian islands together like a lei. And for the first time in recorded history, to do this by outrigger paddling canoe.

GREEN FIRE!
Steve and Ann Dunsky (USA, 73 min)
Green Fire! explores the life and legacy of famed conservationist Aldo Leopold and the ways his land ethic philosophy lives on in the work of people and organizations today. The film shares highlights from Leopold’s life and extraordinary career. Leopold’s vision of a community that cares about both people and the land offers inspiration and insight for the future.

THE GRID
Will Parrinello (USA, 4 min)
In response to Chernobyl, Ursula Sladek created Germany’s first renewable power company co-op (EWS). Two decades later, EWS provides power to more than 150,000 homes and businesses throughout the country, and the German government is aligned with EWS’s sustainability ideals with a goal of deriving 100% of the country’s power from renewable sources (wind, solar, hydro and co-generation) by 2050.

HAPPY THE MOVIE
Roko Belic, Tom Shadyac (USA, 78 min)
Happy combines cutting-edge science from the new field of “positive psychology” with real-life stories of people from around the world whose lives illustrate these findings. Produced by Tom Shadyac, and directed by I Am cinematographer Roko Belic, Happy leads us toward a deeper understanding of how we can all live more fulfilling, healthy and happy lives.

HOKULE’A – PASSING THE TORCH
Phil Arnone (USA, 48 min)
In person: Phil Arnone, Chadd Paishon
The Polynesian Voyaging Society’s canoe Hokule’a journeys thousands of miles across open ocean to deliver the gift of a new voyaging canoe, the Alingano Maisu, to their teacher and Satawalese navigator Mau Pialug. The canoe then sails on a goodwill voyage to Japan.

HOME
Yann Arthus-Bertrand (French, 118 min)
Through visually stunning footage from over fifty countries, and the first film to have been made from entirely aerial footage, Yann Arthus-Bertrand shows us a view most of us have never seen. He shares with us his sense of awe about our planet and his concern for its health. Narrated by Glenn Close.
**HUMPBACKS FROM FIRE TO ICE**

Michelle Addington (USA, 53 min)

*In person: Michelle Addington*

An intimate portrait of the first year of a baby Humpback whale’s life. The film follows mother and calf on their journey across the Pacific Ocean from Hawaii to Alaska and back, a round trip of over 7,000. This journey from active volcanic islands and subtropical sea to the glaciers and icebergs of icy Alaska is a journey from fire to ice.

**I AM**

Tom Shadyac (USA, 79 min)

*I Am* poses two practical and provocative questions: what’s wrong with our world, and what can we do to make it better. Meeting with a variety of thinkers and doers, including luminaries such as Noam Chomsky, Howard Zinn, and Archbishop Desmond Tutu, director Tom Shadyac brings to audiences a fresh, energetic, and life-affirming film. 2011 Co-Winner People’s Choice Award.

**LAST PARADISE**

Clive Neeson (New Zealand, 100 min)

*In person: Clive Neeson*

Last Paradise follows the lives of a group of friends growing up in New Zealand, who would one day become the pioneers of today’s extreme sports. Cinematographer and physicist Clive Neeson masters 45 years of film to tell the story.

**LOST IN THE ETHER**

Andrew Kidman (Australia, 58 min)

Australian artist and surfer Andrew Kidman documents a history of shaping and riding boards, interweaving the thought behind the board with the experience.

**MANUFACTURING STOKE**

Pierce Michael Kavanagh (USA, 80 min)

*In person: Pierce Kavanagh*

Intrinsically linked to nature, some call it a spiritual experience. Most call it indescribable. And yet, with the closing of Clark Foam in 2005, came the recognition that the process of building surfboards is toxic. Enter surfing’s renaissance, from recycled blanks to organic clothing, bringing wave riding a new soul.

**THE MIGHTY UKE**

Tony Coleman, Margaret Meagher (USA, 79 min)

*In person: Danny Akaka, David Gomes*

Almost synonymous with the sound of Hawaii, the ukulele was first brought to the islands by Portuguese immigrants. This fun film travels the world to discover why so many people of different nations, cultures, ages and musical tastes are now turning to the ukulele to express themselves, connect with the past, and with each other.
the films

**OCEANS**
Jacques Perrin & Jake Eberts *(USA, 104 min)*
Four years in filming, Disneynature’s Oceans brings stunning imagery and cutting edge filmmaking to the depths of a wonderland filled with mystery, beauty and power. The ocean and its inhabitants become characters in an epic story of renewal and survival, all moving together in the harmonic orchestra of life.

**PAPA MAU: THE WAYFINDER**
Na’alehu Anthony *(USA, 57 min)*
*In person: Na’alehu Anthony*
Hōkōle’a, the voyaging canoe that made the historic 1976 journey from Hawai‘i to Tahiti, using only traditional wayfinding sits at the heart of the revival of Hawaiian culture. And, Mau Piallug sits at the heart of Hōkōle’a. Willing to bestow sacred, ancient knowledge, master navigator Mau Piallug revived an art lost in Hawai‘i for 600 years. 2011 Best Film Island Culture.

**PLAY AGAIN**
Meg Merrill *(USA, 80 min)*
*In person: Meg Merrill*
One generation from now, most people in the U.S. will have spent more time in the virtual world than in nature. Through the voices of leading experts Play Again investigates the consequences of a childhood removed from nature and encourages action for a sustainable future. Parental discretion advised.

**THE RIDDLE IN A BOTTLE**
Laura and Robert Sams *(USA, 30 min)*
*In person: Laura and Robert Sams*
Laura and Robert, a.k.a. “The Riddle Solvers,” are two siblings who run a riddle-solving stand. We follow them as they solve a mysterious riddle from the ocean that reaches them on an inland lake ... in a message in a bottle. This film brings a lively mix of music, humor and vivid animal footage, and is sure to bring a laugh to all ages.

**SHARK RIDDLE**
Laura and Robert Sams *(USA, 30 min)*
*In person: Laura and Robert Sams*
The second installation of “The Riddle Solvers,” this lively film is designed to help young children develop empathy and positive feelings towards sharks, learn about the diversity of shark species and learn how sharks are necessary for a healthy ocean. Sisbro Studios brings with them The Shark Packet, a packet of educational and family fun activities about sharks.

**SPOIL**
Trip Jennings and Andy Maser *(Canada, 44 min)*
*In person: Flip Nicklin*
This award-winning film brings 7 world-renowned photographers and 3 videographers on a 14-day expedition to British Columbia’s Great Bear Rainforest to document the region’s landscapes, wildlife, and culture. Home to the elusive spirit bear, and one of Canada’s most pristine and unique ecosystems, the area is under threat by a proposed pipeline project.
the films

THE STILL POINT
Taki Bibelas (French, 52 min)
A T.S. Eliot Poem inspires a film about water and the ocean that is told by the world’s legendary pioneer surfers. An artful film about waves, surf and the connection of all things.

SURFING DOLPHINS
Greg Huglin (USA, 19 min)
Fourteen years in the making, cinematographer Greg Huglin travels all over the world to capture these images of dolphins surfing and playing in the waves, and … looking remarkably like humans doing the same.

THE THIRD CROSSING
Jay Nelson (USA, 28 min)
In person: Jay Nelson, Manny Veincent, Kawaihae Canoe Club members
The Third Crossing charts the efforts of 18 women from the Kawaihae Canoe club making their third historic crossing of the Alenuihaha Channel. Led by Coach Manny Veincent, this team of women planned and trained for over one year for this journey, seeking as they went to rediscover the ancient paths and trading routes from Keokea to Hana. Film Premiere.

THIRTY THOUSAND
Richard and Andrew James (Australia, 50 min)
Thirty Thousand documents the journey of twin brothers Richard and Andrew James as they travel 30 000 kilometres down the west coast of Africa, surfing in Morocco, Western Sahara, Senegal, Liberia, Angola, Namibia and South Africa. This very beautiful film captures the joy and beauty of surfing, and the majesty of the continent.

UNCOMMON IDEALS
Chris McClean (Britain, 5 min)
Uncommon Ideals is part of a project documenting the experience and culture of surfing in and around the North Sea. Hidden beneath the cold, grey, windy waves is a rich heritage of seafaring traditions, from the windswept, shifting sand-bars of the Netherlands to the rocky reefs of Norway’s coast.

WALLS OF PERCEPTION
Poor Boyz Productions (USA, 40 min)
## Thursday

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**BREAKFAST TALKS**

**8:15a-9:15a**

- Riddle in the Bottle
- Shark Riddle
- Papa Mau

**9:30a-11:30a**

- Home
- The Eddie
- Eddie Aikau: Hawaiian Hero

12:00p-1:45p

- The Grid
- Hawaiian Hero Cliffhangers
- Arctic Cliffhangers

**2:15-4:15p**

- Green Fire!
- Chasing Water
- Happy Na Ka Lai Wa’a

**3:30p-5:00p**

- Call of Life
- The Mighty Uke
- I Am

**4:00p-6:00p**

- Meet the Artist
- Reception

**Sunset Time**

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**BREAKFAST TALKS**

**8:15a-9:15a**

- Bag It!
- Happy Na Ka Lai Wa’a
- Happy Na Ka Lai Wa’a in person

**9:30a-11:30a**

- The Eddie
- Eddie Aikau: Hawaiian Hero
- The Eddie

11:30a-1:00p

- The Grid
- Arctic Cliffhangers
- Eddie Aikau: Arctic

**2:15-4:15p**

- Happy Na Ka Lai Wa’a
- Family of the Wa’a
- Bag It!

**3:30p-5:00p**

- Call of Life
- The Third Crossing
- The Third Crossing

**4:00p-6:00p**

- Meet the Artist
- Reception

**Sunset Time**

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<tr>
<td>9:30a-10:30a</td>
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<td>Q&amp;A</td>
<td>Humpbacks: From Fire to Ice</td>
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breakfast talks

Start the day with coffee and pastries and the chance to hear more from our special guests. Each day there is one talk at Kahilu Theatre and one talk at the Garden Room at the Mauna Kea Beach Hotel.

On Saturday, The Fairmont Orchid hosts a talk at Browns Beach House Restaurant, and Na Ka Lai Wa’a hosts a talk around Makali’i at Halau Kukui within Kawaihae Harbor. To reach Halau Kukui, drive into the main harbor, past the breakwall, and back towards the shark heiau.

ThURSDAY

Pete McBride, Alex Woodbury, Dr. Bill Wiecking
At the Mauna Kea Garden Room
When Less is More. Join filmmaker Pete McBride (Chasing Water), local green building expert Alex Woodbury, and HPA Energy Lab Director Bill Wiecking for a discussion around energy and water conservation in the west.

Wayne Levin
At the Kahilu Theatre
Photographing Papahanamokuakea. Join Wayne Levin in the gallery at Kahilu Theatre as he talks about each photograph in turn in his exhibit on Papahanamokuakea.

FRIDAY

Bill Ritter
At the Mauna Kea Garden Room
Sustainable Futures: Energy, Food and Water. Join former Governor of Colorado Bill Ritter as he discusses the relationships between food, energy and water, and how these resources interplay in developing a sustainable future.

Sisbro Studios
At the Kahilu Theatre
Into the mind of a child. Join sister and brother team Laura and Robert Sams as they discuss what goes on in their minds as they work to create educational media that is “so clever, funny, beautiful and catchy” that a 5 year old will want to watch it again and again.

SATURDAY

Ann and Steve Dunsky
At the Mauna Kea Garden Room
Our national treasure. Join Steve and Ann Dunsky (Green Fire!) to hear more about the work of Aldo Leopold, and issues facing the forest service today.

Clive Neeson, Meg Merrill
At the Kahilu Theatre
A childhood outdoors. Join New Zealand filmmaker Clive Neeson (Last Paradise) and Meg Merrill (Play Again) as they discuss outdoor play in childhood, and the making of the creative mind.
SUNNYDAY

Tales of the Big Waves
At the Mauna Kea Garden Room
Tale of the Big Waves. Join Mark Healey, Christian Enns and others as they tell tales from riding the big waves.

Ian Cheney and Chadd Paishon
At the Kahilu Theatre
The night sky. Join filmmaker Ian Cheney (The City Dark) and Master Navigator Chadd Paishon as they discuss what the stars mean to us as people, and what we are losing when we lose the night sky.

sunrise/morning activities

MAUNA KEA BEACH HOTEL
Join fellow festival attendees every morning during the festival, Thursday through Sunday, from 7:00 to 8:00 am, for sunrise yoga by the beach. Classes will be taught by Pascale Fasciano at the Mauna Kea Beach Hotel on the lawn by the luau grounds. Bring your own mat or towel, water bottle, and your festival pass.

KAWAIHAE CANOE CLUB
The Kawaihe Canoe Club was formed in 1972 by a group of athletic and civic-minded individuals from Waimea, and has been instrumental to the revival of the ancient Hawaiian tradition of outrigger canoe racing on the Big Island.

The Club’s dedication to promoting and perpetuating outrigger canoe racing brings participants ranging in age from ten to seventy, and helps challenge kids by giving them a sense of direction and developing their discipline.

Waimea Ocean Film Festival attendees are invited to join the Kawaihe Canoe Club on Friday morning, January 6th in Kawaihe Harbor from 6:30am – 7:30am to learn how to paddle an outrigger canoe.

Participation is limited. Please sign up at the Hospitality Desk at Kahilu Theatre by 5pm on Thursday, January 5th.

breakfast talks

SATURDAY (cont.)

Chris Luedi, Kimokeo Kapahulehua
At the Fairmont Orchid
Join Kimokeo Kapahulehua and Chris Luedi, the General Manager of the Fairmont Orchid, as they discuss Family of the Wa’a. Kimokeo and Chris are two of the four paddlers to have completed all 1,750 miles of paddling by outrigger canoe as part of the kuleana handed to Kimokeo by his uncle – to unite all the Hawaiian islands like a lei.

Chadd Paishon, Shorty Bertelmann
At Makali‘i in Kawaihe Harbor
Makali‘i. Join Chadd Paishon, Shorty Bertelmann and other members of Na Ka Lai Wa’a, as they talk about the canoe Makali‘i while it is on dry dock at Halau Kukui.

Ka Waihae Canoe Club
The Kawaihe Canoe Club was formed in 1972 by a group of athletic and civic-minded individuals from Waimea, and has been instrumental to the revival of the ancient Hawaiian tradition of outrigger canoe racing on the Big Island.

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Participation is limited. Please sign up at the Hospitality Desk at Kahilu Theatre by 5pm on Thursday, January 5th.
NANPA 2012 photographer of the year, Flip Nicklin shot his first humpback whale photo off the coast of the Hawaiian Islands in 1979 while crewing for the IMAX film Nomads of the Deep. It was at this point that his career filming whales emerged. “I thought it was a two month job. I never expected to spend my life working with whales,” said Flip.

Now a world premier whale photographer, author, and co-founder of the Whale Trust organization, Flip Nicklin is credited with 20 National Geographic feature stories and several books. For the past 30 years, he has dived over 6,000 times, often free-diving remarkable depths of up to 90-feet.

Since 1996, Flip has spent his winters researching humpback whales with Dr. Jim Darling and Dr. Meagan Jones off the coast of Maui, Hawaii. Together they founded Whale Trust, a nonprofit research and education organization that promotes the protection and conservation of the marine environment.

In his most recent book, Among Giants, Flip is equal parts photographer, adventurer, self-trained scientist, and raconteur. The book matches breathtaking images of whales to firsthand accounts of making these images, while highlighting throughout the importance of conservation and new advances in our understanding of whale behavior.

For anyone who has marveled at the majesty of whales in the wild, Among Giants is an inspiring account.

According to NANPA president Bill Plunket, “Flip not only shows us incredible beauty with his photos, but they also inspire others to preserve the environment of the creatures he photographs. We are all in Flip’s debt for making it possible for us to enjoy and marvel at the wonders of his subjects.”

Join Flip Nicklin for a presentation on his work with whales and a booksigning of Among Giants on Saturday at HPA Gates at 1pm.
Clive Neeson

“The main thrust of the film is to inspire people to pursue their dream, study the physical sciences, recreate and form a personal relationship with the natural wilderness and hopefully they will be moved to save it. The objective with the 45 year journey is to give people an insight to how much the world has changed in one lifetime so they can get a first hand vision of where we are going and what “normal” is or was for the planet.”

Clive Neeson is a man straddling two worlds. On the one hand, he and a handful of friends pioneered the world of extreme sports in New Zealand. On the other, he is an atomic physicist who innovated the world’s first climate monitoring machine.

Neeson grew up in east Africa, where his parents filmed wildlife during the 1950’s. When he moved to New Zealand, he and his three brothers took to exploring the wilderness in search of fun. It was there that they met other young like-minded mavericks, some of whom would become the pioneers of today’s extreme sports.

On meeting pioneering surfer and kindred soul Miki Dora in 1973, Clive was inspired to hit the roads less traveled with camera and backpack in a search of their concept of “paradise”.

Clive also studied atomic physics and electronics under renowned physicist Professor Bruce Liley, graduating with Masters Degree in Atomic Physics. Living a double life between the maverick madmen of adventure sports and the conservative scientific community, Clive filmed the journey from its experimental beginnings, building his own camera accessories to get a closer, realistic perspective of the action. In 2007, he had the opportunity to digitally master 45 years of his and others’ footage at Park Road, Peter Jackson’s famous New Zealand post production facility, which provided the impetus to create the film Last Paradise.

The Third Crossing/Jay Nelson

This premier of The Third Crossing comes as a collaboration between the Kawaihae Canoe Club and the award-winning director and producer, Jay Nelson. The film documents the journey as 18 women from the Kawaihae Canoe Club make their historic third crossing of the Alenuihaha Channel, one of the most difficult channel crossings in the world.

Woven into the story is the historical context of the canoe as a means of travel and trade between the islands, as the women seek to find what once would have been established crossing routes.

Jay is also the Executive Producer, Writer and Editor for the documentary “Wild In The Streets” and “Holy Wars” both of which will be in theaters and on television in 2012. “Holy Wars” will screen at Kahilu Theatre in March, 2012. Jay moved to Waimea with his family in 2007 and continues to work internationally in film and TV.

Join Clive Neeson for Q&As after the showings of his film at HPA Gates at 9:30 am on Thursday, at Parker Theatre at 2:15 pm on Friday and at Kahilu Theatre at 3:00 pm on Saturday.

Join Clive Neeson and Meg Merrill for a breakfast talk on Friday morning at Kahilu Theatre.

Join filmmaker Jay Nelson, Coach Manny Veincent and members of the Kawaihae Canoe Canoe Club at 11:45 am on Sunday at Parker Theatre as they discuss the making of this film.

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Chasing the Swell/Mark Healey

Born and raised on the North Shore of Oahu, and featured in the film Chasing the Swell, Mark Healey is one of the top big wave surfers on the professional circuit today. Sponsored by Quiksilver, Electric, DC, Monster, GoPro, Wave Riding Vehicles, Waterman Sunscreen, High Surf Accessories, his career highlights include being an 8x Eddie Aikau invitee, and winning the Todos Santos Big Wave contest.

Join Mark Healey for a Q&A following Chasing the Swell, conditions permitting, at Kahilu Theatre on Saturday at 6:15pm, and on Sunday at 9:30 am. Join Mark Healy, Christian Enns and others for a Breakfast Talk about big wave surfing on Sunday.

Christian Enns

Christian Enns, artist and big wave surfer, joins the festival this year both to share his artwork at Wishard Gallery, and to talk about big wave surfing. A 2 time NSSA National Champion, and 2 time HASA Hawaii State Champion, Christian spent 10 years traveling as a professional surfer, prior to settling down on the Big Island.

As Tom Cozad of Water Magazine writes: “There’s also a crew of underground guys that aren’t in the mainstream surf media you’ve probably never heard of. These guys also show up on the biggest of big days and charge. Christian Enns, originally from Morro Bay, is one of them.”

Join Christian Enns, Mark Healey and others for a Breakfast Talk on Sunday.

The City Dark/Ian Cheney

Moving to New York City from rural Maine, Cheney noticed a vast panorama of brilliant stars dimming to a few weak points of light against a backdrop of softly glowing sky. His documentary, The City Dark, addresses this phenomenon and the effects of losing the night sky. Featuring stunning astrophotography and a cast of scientists, philosophers, historians and lighting designers, The City Dark is a history of the modern age, leading viewers to question what we are losing in the glare of city lights.

Join Ian Cheney for a Q&A at 3:00pm on Saturday at Parker Theatre and at 6:00 pm on Saturday at HPA Gates.

Chasing Water/Pete McBride

Native Coloradan Pete McBride has spent almost two decades studying the world with his camera. A self-taught, award-winning photographer, he has traveled on assignment to over 60 countries for the publications of the National Geographic Society, Smithsonian, Outside, Men’s Journal, Esquire, and many others. After a decade working abroad, Pete decided to focus his cameras closer to home on a subject closer to his heart.

Combining his passion for aviation and his belief in conservation, he partnered with Jon Waterman and spent over two years documenting his local river — the Colorado. This journey culminated in a coffee table book: “The Colorado River: Flowing Through Conflict”, an award-winning short film, “Chasing Water” and a traveling museum exhibit/lecture currently touring the U.S.

Join Pete for a Q&A after Chasing Water at 1:15pm on Friday at Kahilu Theatre, and at 12:30pm on Saturday at Parker Theatre. Join Pete, HPA Energy Lab Director Bill Wiecking and local green building expert Alex Woodbury for a Breakfast Talk on Thursday.
Bryce Groark

As a wildlife photographer and cinematographer specializing in the marine environment, Bryce Groark started Living Ocean Productions in Kona, Hawaii with the goal of bridging the gap between the scientific community and the general public.

His award-winning work has been featured in magazines, newspapers, domestic and international television networks as well as a myriad of international film festivals, aquariums and museums around the world. With more than 5,000 hours spent underwater over the past twelve years, Bryce's work has brought him to all corners of the earth.

Sharks and large pelagic species are his passion. For years, his images have worked to showcase the plight of sharks around the globe, and his work with conservation groups and policy makers continues to raise awareness and support multiple forms of legislation to protect sharks. In 2010, Bryce assisted in helping Hawaii become the safest place in the world for sharks, with the passing of SB2169, a bill that prohibits the possession, sale or trade of any shark fin products in the state of Hawaii.

Bryce sits on the International Board of Directors for WildAid and is also the Managing Director for Ocean Preservation Alliance – an organization that connects the scientific, conservation and exploration community with super yachts around the world.

Join Bryce Groark at 3:30 pm on Friday at Kuhilau Theatre for a 'work in progress' as he shares footage from the productions he’s working on, including Mission Blue and Blue Serengeti, an IMAX film on whales. Bryce will also share scenes from his film Requiem, and talk about sharks in Hawaii.
Hokule’a: The Voyager’s Exhibit and Photographing Papahanaumokuakea

From January 4th through the 29th, 2012, Kahilu Theatre hosts two exhibits: Photographing Papahanaumokuakea by Wayne Levin and Hokule’a: The Voyagers Exhibit with original photographs taken by Nicholas Devore III on the 1976 voyage of Hokule’a.

Papahanaumokuakea Marine National Monument is a World Heritage site and U.S. National Monument encompassing 140,000 square miles of ocean waters, including ten islands and atolls of the Northwestern Hawaiian Islands. Dr. Randy Kosaki is the Deputy Superintendent of the Monument. “Seamless ecosystem-based management is a relatively new concept for Western natural resource managers, yet it formed the basis for traditional ahupua’a management for two millennia here in Hawai’i,” explains Kosaki. “The Northwest Hawaiian Islands represent a great opportunity to combine cutting edge 21st-century science with the best of this traditional knowledge and wisdom.”

Wayne Levin noted, “When I was invited by Dr. Randy Kosaki to accompany the August 2009 research cruise of the NOAA vessel Hi’ialakai to the Papahanaumokuakea Marine National Monument, I felt extremely privileged to be allowed to visit and photograph in a place that so few people are able to go. As I journeyed through these islands and atolls, I came to feel I was in a very special place. It is a realm of wildness, a place that is almost untouched by modern human civilization. There is also a sense of spirituality, sacredness about this place. It is a place of both awesome natural power, and extreme fragility. Many of the unique species are critically endangered, and the pollution from the entire Pacific threatens this pristine environment.”

Kahilu Theatre will sponsor and host an artist reception from 5:30pm to 7pm on January 4th followed by a 7pm lecture by Wayne Levin in conjunction with Dr. Kosaki. Wayne Levin returns for a Breakfast Talk on January 5th, where he will discuss each image in the exhibit in turn.

Also at Kahilu Theatre will be Nicholas Devore III’s photographic record of the historic voyage of the Hokule’a from Hawai’i to Tahiti in 1976. Nicholas came to know Master Navigator Mau Piailug while photographing a story for National Geographic in Micronesia that took him on an incredible canoe voyage of 550 miles across the open ocean with traditional navigators. Shortly after, he was invited to document the historic voyage of the Hokule’a from Hawaii to Tahiti. Although an incredibly challenging assignment while only in his twenties, Nicholas was also very proud of having been part of this successful journey. It was his National Geographic assignments to the South Pacific, Polynesia, Mt. Everest, the Sahara and Southern Africa and the American West that established Devore’s early renown.

Complementing Devore’s work on the Hokulea will be the films Papa Mau, the Eddie Aikau documentary, and Hokulea: Passing the Torch. Na Ka Lai Wa’a will discuss the meaning of the Voyagers Exhibit at an opening and blessing for the exhibit on January 5th at 4 pm.
Producer Phil Arnone established himself early on in his career as a producer and director of high quality television programming while working for KGMB in Honolulu. More recently, he directed and produced a series of exceptional made-for-TV documentaries about the history and culture of the islands, and the people and heroes most beloved by Hawaii. As part of this, and in conjunction with KGMB, Phil Arnone produced the documentary Eddie Aikau: Hawaiian Hero.

The ubiquitous slogan ‘Eddie Would Go’ refers to his brave attempt to paddle to shore to find help for the stranded crew of the capsized Hokule’a, an attempt that would result in Eddie being lost at sea forever.

In Eddie’s honor, Quicksilver sponsors The Eddie. This tournament has only been held eight times since its inception in 1985, due to the condition that wave face heights reach 30 feet. The contest only invites 28 big-wave riders to participate, and does not allow the use of jet skis to tow in surfers. Eddie’s brother Clyde won the title in 1987.

Eddie’s brother Solomon recounts that Eddie was a “good, fair, caring and very nice person. We all grew up as best friends, which not everyone can believe. I respected him for everything he did, and really loved him as a brother. Eddie used to always tell people two things: I love my family, and I did this for all the Hawaiians. Eddie would probably say now, ‘Follow your dreams, and try to be successful.’”

The way Eddie lived his life, always taking care of others, has captured the imaginations of people throughout Hawaii and beyond. Eddie Aikau: Hawaiian Hero is a fitting tribute and lasting testament to this Hawaiian icon, for whom the Hokule’a meant so much.

Another KGMB and Phil Arnone production, Hokule’a: Passing the Torch follows the Polynesian Voyaging Society’s canoe Hokule’a as it journeys thousands of miles across open ocean to deliver their ‘Thank You’ gift to Satawalese navigator Mau Pialug, who came to bring back the ancient art of Wayfinding, or navigating by the stars, to the Hawaiians. In turn, the Hawaiians built the canoe, The Aligano Maisu, as a floating classroom to pass on this body of navigational knowledge to the next generation of Micronesians.

In Satawal, Mau Pialug honors Hawaiian navigators Nainoa Thompson, Chadd Paishon, Shorty Bertelmann, Bruce Blankenfeld, and Chad Baybayan as Master navigators in an ancient ceremony known as “Pwo.” The Hokule’a then sails on a goodwill voyage to Japan, where the crewmembers are received in honor by the Japanese, who express a heartfelt welcome.

This beautiful and touching documentary provides insight into the Hawaiian voyaging canoes, and the connections forged among the people living in the Pacific through these voyages.
Ka’ūpūlehu Interpretive Center

Ka’ūpūlehu is one of 23 traditional ahupua’a land divisions in the Kekaha region of North Kona. The ahupua’a sweeps down from the summit of Hualalai, through its forests, and transitions into the grass plains, onto the lava fields. The ahupua’a continues through the pahoehoe flats, with ancient petroglyphs and salt pans, to the shoreline.

Traditional accounts tell that these lands were favored by the ali‘i. They are still held precious and sacred by many descendants and stewards, who ask all who interact with Ka’ūpūlehu to help with the perpetuation of its significance and resources.

Ancient ahupua’a usually extended from the mountain into the sea, and ensured a system of sharing resources between those who cultivated the uplands and the forest, and those who lived by the sea. The lives of those on the land were interwoven with the lives of those on the sea, and they each provided for the other. A careful system of resource management practices and a system of kapu ensured continued replenishment of products needed for sustenance. Ka’ūpūlehu is one of the few remaining intact ahupua’a today under one ownership.

The family of Ku’ulei Keakealani, the director of the Ka’ūpūlehu Interpretive Center, has lived in this region for generations. Join Ku’ulei, Yvonne and Keoki Carter for a program “From Mauka to Makai” on January 10th from 9am to 3pm.

Yvonne and Keoki Carter, along with Wilds Pihanui Brawner work to perpetuate the vitality and legacy of dryland forests with partners, interns and many volunteers. Only 5% of these ecosystems remain in Hawai‘i and only 10% worldwide. During the morning they will share this rare treasure through imagery, stories, and hands-on displays of their “cultural ecology” approach to “aloha ‘aina.” They will also share the importance of landscaping with natives to provide safe havens; and mauka-makai connections to rekindle ancient relationships.

In the afternoon, Ku’ulei Keakealani will tell stories of the land, to give a sense of place, and connection between mauka and makai. Participants will be invited to walk to the coastline to visit ancient and historical sites including petroglyphs, and fishing grounds.

The Mauka to Makai program is limited to 30 participants. The sign up sheet will be available at the Hospitality Desk at Kahilu Theatre until noon on Sunday.
Clark Little

Clark Little was born in Napa, California in 1968. Two years later, a move to the North Shore of Oahu dramatically changed his future. In the 1980’s and 1990’s he made his name as a pioneer of surfing at the Waimea Bay shorebreak. Clark had a unique talent for taking off on hopeless closeout shorebreak waves and surviving in one piece.

In 2007, Clark discovered his ability and passion to capture the extraordinary beauty of the shorebreak when his wife asked him for a picture of the ocean to decorate a bedroom wall. With the confidence of an experienced surfer, Clark jumped in the ocean, and started snapping away, recording the beauty and power of Hawaiian waves. Clark’s photography lends a unique and often dangerous perspective of waves from the inside out.


In November 2009, Clark published his 182-page debut art book, The Shorebreak Art of Clark Little. Then in August 2010, Clark opened his first gallery in Laguna Beach, California. A second gallery opened six months later in his hometown of Haleiwa, Hawaii down the road from many of the North Shore beaches featured in his photography.

Achievements in 2011 include receiving the prestigious Oceans Photography Award from the Windland Smith Rice International Awards. Two of Clark’s award winning images were exhibited from April - September 2011 at the Smithsonian National Museum of Natural History in Washington DC.

Join Clark for a presentation and book signing at 3:30 pm on January 12th in the ballroom at Four Seasons. An exhibit of Clark Little photography will be on display at Pahui’a Restaurant at Four Seasons for the month of January.

“Award winning master of aquatic photography.”
—NEW YORK TIMES
Bill Ritter

In his four years as Governor of Colorado, Bill Ritter positioned Colorado as an economic and energy leader at the forefront of a fast-changing world by creating sustainable jobs, encouraging economic growth, and fostering new innovations and new technologies within the state.

His aggressive strategy, known as the New Energy Economy, set out to harness the creative forces of entrepreneurs, researchers, educators, business leaders and policy makers to help America remain a global economic power by leading – not following – in the race to a new energy future.

As a result of the goals laid out in the New Energy Economy plan, Colorado is now a national center for advancing diversified energy resources including solar, wind, geothermal, biomass, small hydro, Smart Grid and other elements of the emerging new energy world. This successful economic transformation, recognized in Washington D.C. and in many countries around the world, evolved through a series of policy, legislative and economic development actions.

At the outset of his administration, Governor Ritter set out to develop oil and gas drilling rules that put greater emphasis on the protection of Colorado’s signature wildlife herds, water, air, communities and landscapes, seeking better balance between industry and environment. As part of this, he expanded the commission on oil and gas to include a broader range of stakeholders and community interests. Simultaneously, Governor Ritter set to work on an ambitious slate of legislative and policy goals designed to accelerate job creation in the New Energy Economy: in his first year, the administration published the state’s first Climate Action Plan and lawmakers doubled and then tripled the state’s Renewable Energy Standard – from 10 percent by 2015 to 20 and then 30 percent by 2020.

Other key legislation included a bill that encouraged the development of new transmission lines, providing utilities more financial flexibility to build systems that would import green electrons from large-scale wind and solar projects; a bill that established a statewide policy that Coloradans be credited for the power they generated from their own rooftop solar or small wind system; and a bill that required dramatic increases in “demand-side management” from investor-owned electric and gas utilities. Emphasizing the importance of the state government leading by example, Governor Ritter also issued “Greening Government” goals directing state agencies to reduce energy consumption by 20 percent, water use by 10 percent, paper consumption by 20 percent and petroleum use by 25 percent – all by 2012.

In support of the New Energy Economy initiatives, Governor Ritter established a new energy office, appointed new members to the Public Utilities Commission, appointed Colorado’s first climate change advisor and created a cross-departments climate group charged with creating the Colorado Climate Action Plan. This newly empowered administration was designed, in part, to court major new energy companies, including the world’s largest wind turbine manufacturer, Vestas. In March 2007 Denmark-based Vestas – the world’s largest wind turbine manufacturer – announced it would open its first plant in Windsor, a community on Colorado’s northern Front Range. The plant was designed, in part, to court major new energy companies, including the world’s largest wind turbine blades a year and employ nearly 500 people. Ultimately, VESTAS committed to making an investment in Colorado of around $1 billion spread over four plants that would create well over 2,000 new jobs.

“Just as the industrial revolution created the jobs of the 20th century, we now usher in a new century of innovation, creativity and entrepreneurial vigor. The New Energy Economy is creating the pathway to these careers and a new American century of leadership.”

—BILL RITTER

During Governor Ritter’s term, lawmakers passed nearly 60 pieces of green energy legislation and the Ritter administration was directly involved with some 40 company expansions or relocations to Colorado, which created 6,500 primary jobs. By 2009, Colorado was home to the fourth-highest concentration of clean-energy workers in the country and had more than 1,500 clean energy companies operating throughout the state. The amount of solar power produced increased from 4 megawatts in 2006 to 103 megawatts by 2010. Wind power saw a ten-fold increase from 291 megawatts in 2006 to 1,295 megawatts by 2010.

Bill Ritter’s work continues as director of the newly established Center for the New Energy Economy at Colorado State University in Fort Collins, Colorado.

Please join Bill Ritter for a presentation on what is required to create a new energy future at 11:00 am on Saturday, January 7th at HPA Gates.
The canoe occupies an integral part of Hawaiian culture. Having brought over the first settlers of the Hawaiian Islands and served as a means to survival, sustenance, and ceremony since then, the canoe occupies a central and prominent position in Hawaiian lore. It remains a symbol of community, of combining strengths and pooling individual talents to complete the tasks at hand. Naturally, there would be those who would use these canoes to venture far from sight of the shore. For them, wayfinding was an essential skill to be learned and developed.

Wayfinding is a system of navigation used to voyage thousands of miles across the open ocean, and was employed thousands of years before the invention of European navigational instruments. The wayfinder does not use instruments of any kind, but instead depends solely on observations of the sun, stars, ocean swells, weather, and other signs of nature to know the direction and location of a vessel at sea.

The Hawaiian star compass, knowledge of which is critical for wayfinders, is composed of the four cardinal directions, the four quadrants, and seven directional points, which, along with the cardinal directions, are known as houses. The stars rise in one house on the eastern horizon, arc overhead, and set in the same house on the western horizon.

Beyond a mere transportation technique, wayfinding is a way — a combination of philosophy and religion, a way of life. The true navigator reaches a point where he does not go out in search of the island; instead, he points his boat in the right direction, and the island comes to him. Though this way of life and the traditional knowledge and techniques are in danger of being lost, a revival of the art and science of wayfinding is underway. The revival first began with the 1976 voyage of Hokule’a from Hawaii to Tahiti, and continues today with Makali’i.

In the mid-90’s, Waimea brothers Clay and Shorty Bertelmann, along with local community and cultural organizations, initiated efforts to construct Hawaii Island’s first voyaging canoe in centuries. The result was Makali’i, built by the non-profit organization Na Kalai Wa’a Moku o Hawai’i under the guidance of Clay and Shorty. On February 4, 1995, Clay served as Captain and Shorty as Navigator for the maiden voyage of Makali’i from Hawaii to Tahiti. Then and now, Makali’i, provides the children and community of the Big Island the opportunity to learn the ancient sea voyaging and wayfinding techniques of their ancestors.

Na Kalai Wa’a, which manages Makali’i, continues to perpetuate, protect and preserve Hawaiian culture and traditions through education for future generations. The organization offers community educational programs on Hawaiian sea voyaging and wayfinding that include the study of cultural values, oral histories, traditional chants and dances, canoe technology past and present, and non-instrument navigation. Makali’i serves as the focal point and primary classroom for these programs, which are geared toward students of all ages and ethnic backgrounds who want to experience the ancient Hawaiian sea voyagers’ way of life.

Join Chadd Paishon, Shorty Bertelmann, and other members of Na Ka Lai Wa’a around Halau Kukui in Kawaihae Harbor for a breakfast talk about Makali’i on January 7th at 8:15am on Saturday.

In addition, join Chadd and others at the Four Seasons Hualalai on January 11th for a sunset talk about Halau Ka’upulehu, the star compass, Wayfinding, and the connection of the canoe to the land. For more information, please contact the Hospitality Desk.
Pacific Voyagers

Pacific Voyaging began when the world’s first seafarers set off in ocean canoes (vakas) from Asia in the hopes of finding other lands. The diaspora continued for thousands of years, eventually bringing travelers to the more remote Hawaiian Islands, Rapanui, and Aotearoa, and establishing communities at each location with the root crops, fruit seeds, and domestic animals they carried on their voyage.

Using only the sun, the stars, wind, waves, clouds, and wildlife as guides, they successfully navigated the vast Pacific Ocean. Pius Mau Pialug was a Micronesian navigator amongst the last of his people to know the ancient ways of navigation. Afraid his people were losing this skill as a result of westernization, Mau brought his skills to Hawaii, at the request of the Polynesian Voyaging Society. In 1976 Mau helped the Hawaiians successfully sail the Hokule’a from Hawai’i to Tahiti.

Inspired by Papa Mau Pialug and Polynesian Voyaging Society navigator Nainoa Thompson, and having met many more people who have since worked passionately to bring back the traditional culture and wisdom of their ancestors into our modern world, Dieter Paulmann, founder of Okeanos – Foundation for the Sea, saw the vaka as a metaphor and symbol for a sustainable, respectful life and relationship with the sea.

Paulmann has felt a strong connection to the sea his whole life. When he came to learn that the oceans and its inhabitants are severely threatened by ocean acidification and its ecosystems increasingly stressed, he began his mission to preserve the Pacific Ocean, the ocean’s inhabitants, and assist in the revival of ancient Polynesian traditions.

To date, the foundation has rebuilt seven ocean-voyaging vakas with the help and expertise of the Polynesian people. Their film, Blue Canoe, follows these boats as they sail around the world, raising awareness about ocean acidification. The environmental story is a human story, told by the people who are contending with the effects of a changing planet in very real ways. As we voyage with them, we find they are not only reclaiming their heritage as the finest of sailors, but also the finest of stewards.

Please join Vaka captains Duncon Morrison, Magnus Danbolt and Brynne Eaton-Auva'a, along with cameraman Mike Single at 11:15am on January 11th in the ballroom at Four Seasons as they show work in progress and discuss their voyage.
David Chai
Hualalai Resort

Perpetuating the Hawaiian principle Malama Ka Honua, or “protecting the land and ocean,” David Chai and his team of natural resource specialists manage and maintain the health and integrity of all natural and man-made anchialine ponds at Hualalai Resort. Anchialine ponds exist in inland lava depressions near the ocean. They are fed by freshwater springs or from percolation from the water table. The water level rises and falls with the tide and salinity varies from fresh to saltier than sea water.

The resort uses an on-site aquaculture farm, where the Pacific Threadfin or Moi fish are raised for consumption. A wide variety of herbs and vegetables are also grown for consumption at the resort.

LAKE PŪNĀWAI
A project of Hualalai Resort’s Natural Resources Director David Chai, Lake Pūnāwai was built in 2001. David’s goal was to create an energy efficient, visually pleasing, self-sustaining, and self-cleaning pond using phytoremediation — the treatment of environmental problems using plants. This serene 3-million-gallon man-made pond that encompasses about two and a half acres and is about 10 feet deep. With a gravel bottom, two floating islands of plants, and micro-organisms, it is a mini-ecosystem. The lake is stocked with several different species of fish — awa (milkfish), ‘ama’ama (mullet), mo‘i (threadfin), kāhala (amberjack), ‘ōpae (shrimp), and ʻōlepe (oysters.) Everything can be harvested for consumption except the oysters, which are used as filtration.

A testament to the synergy of ancient and modern aquaculture practices, Lake Pūnāwai resides on the fifth hole of the Ke’olu Golf Course at Hualalai as one of its “water features.” The project received an award from the Environmental Protection Agency in 2005.

WAIKAUKUHI FISHPOND
This three-acre, 1.8 million gallon saltwater aquarium/pond was awarded a Lehua Makanoe Award at the 2007 Hawai’i Tourism Authority’s Keep It Hawai’i Awards, where individuals, groups, and corporations who create programs of awareness and sharing to perpetuate the uniqueness of Hawai’i’s culture and heritage, are recognized.

HUNAWAI POND
This fresh water pond is adjacent to the Resort’s Hoku Amphitheatre. Meaning “hidden water,” this pond was once a source for fresh drinking water for the people that resided in this area.

TURTLE TAGGING
The beaches at Hualalai Resort are basking grounds for the Hawaiian Green Sea Turtle (Chelonia mydas). The multitude of Green Sea turtles that thrive there enjoy eating the limu (seaweed) off the rocks and resting on the sand to warm themselves.

The National Marine Fisheries turtle scientist, George Balazs, in conjunction with Marc Rice and the Hawai’i Preparatory Academy (HPA), has an ongoing turtle tagging program at Hualalai Resort.

David Chai, director of natural resources, has been restoring and maintaining the natural ponds at Ka’upulehu since 1990. First brought on as a consultant, David restored the resort’s many native ecosystems to preserve the ponds natural resources. As part of his commitment to preserving natural resources, David trains students in Aquatic Resource Management and develops management plans for coastal communities on Hawai’i Island.

David brings a community wide focus and culturally based approach to his work. The coastal waters at Ka’upulehu were once famous for mo‘i, he’e (octopus), and large gatherings of opelu (mackerel scad). These natural fisheries have been depleted. To revive them, David has been working with cultural, community and conservation groups on developing an area-wide marine resource management plan.

His long-range goal is to have Ka’upulehu recognized by the State as a Subsistence Fisheries Management Area, which would allow for the implementation of a Hawaiian-style kapu (traditional legal management) system to restrict harvesting and impose limits on taking of fish.

“We provide a model for what can be done to manage marine resources in a traditional Hawaiian way,” says Chai. “There are a lot of places that want to do what we’re doing, so we help out.”

Please join David Chai for a walking breakfast talk on January 13th at 8:15am starting at the Beach Tree Restaurant at Four Seasons.
Marc Rice

Marc Rice, Director of Science and Technology at Hawai‘i Preparatory Academy (HPA) and Director of the Cooperative Sea Turtle Research Project, joined HPA’s science department in 1972. He was assistant headmaster from 1994 to 2004, chaired the science department for eight years, served as the director of studies for nine years, and also served as vice principal and assistant head of academic affairs.

Since 1987, Marc’s marine science students have worked with the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) of the Pacific Islands Fisheries Science Center, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) to capture, measure, tag and study the threatened Hawaiian green sea turtle (Chelonia mydas). Over the last 25 years, HPA students and NOAA scientists have captured and tagged several thousand green turtles.

Under Marc’s supervision, HPA students also formed a volunteer sea turtle rescue team for West and North Hawaii in partnership with NMFS. Marc directs the team in responding to reports from the general public of stranded sea turtles along the Big Island’s west and north shores, from Honokohau Harbor to Pololu Valley. The HPA team is one of four in the state of Hawaii working and training with George Balazs, leader of Hawaiian Marine Turtle Research for NMFS.

Marc’s current research projects include: the physiological and ecological implications of green turtle basking behavior in the main Hawaiian Islands; migratory diving behavior of adult green turtles in the Hawaiian Islands; pelagic phase migratory behavior of juvenile loggerhead turtles in the North Pacific; pelagic phase migratory behavior of juvenile Hawaiian green turtles; and the ecological importance of cleaning stations to green turtles.

Join Marc Rice at 9:30 am on January 6th at HPA Gates for his talk on the Hawaiian green turtle population, the next steps in their management, and other sea turtle research projects in the North Pacific.

For a hands on introduction to turtles, join biologist Pi‘i Laeha and Marc Rice as Pi‘i Laeha gives a fishpond tour about the sea life found in Mauna Lani’s fishponds. Meet at the Bay Terrace Bridge at the Mauna Lani Resort on Saturday at 10:30am.
Michael Morriss Fund

At the age of 23, Michael Jennings Keola Morriss was an accomplished diver, spearfisher and surfer. A devoted waterman, Michael lost his life while free diving in January 2009. To honor his memory, the Michael Morriss Memorial fund was established with The Nature Conservancy of Hawaii. The purpose of the Fund is to promote stewardship of Hawaii’s marine resources, beginning at Puako Bay and Ka’upulehu on the South Kohala Coast of Hawaii Island.

Chad Wiggins from The Nature Conservancy with the help of the Morriss family and footage by Cal Hirai of the show Outside Hawaii on OC 16 will give an update regarding the project since it’s inception. Michael’s irrepressible love for life, the ocean and the people he touched lives on forever.

Please join the Morriss family and Chad Wiggins as they discuss the Michael Morriss Fund on Saturday at 9:45 am at HPA Gates.

Sisbro Studios: Shark Riddle and Riddle in a Bottle

Sisbro Studios is the brother and sister team formed by Laura and Robert Sams to create wildlife and underwater films, books, music and educational curriculum for children. Laura Sams brings a Masters Degree in natural resources education to the work, and the duo has further teamed with the Save Our Seas Foundation to create “Shark Days” events to celebrate the diversity and importance of sharks for the ocean.

As part of this, Sisbro Studios just completed a half hour children’s film called The Shark Riddle, which features high definition footage of over 20 sharks, and recently won Best Children’s Program of the Year at the Jackson Hole Wildlife Film Festival. The film is created especially for elementary-aged children, but also entertains younger kids — and adults too. The movie features a number of shots from Hawaii based underwater cinematographer Bryce Groark.

Each showing of The Shark Riddle includes the thirty-minute film, along with a live shark-based educational program given by Laura and Robert Sams, and the chance to see a life-sized inflatable version of a basking shark. For outreach activities, children and families can participate in hands-on crafts, games and activities from The Shark Packet of family fun and educational activities based on the film.

The Riddle in a Bottle is a half-hour movie for children, which shares how life on earth is connected through moving water. It is also the movie that inspired the children’s book A Pirate’s Quest.

Please join Laura and Robert Sams for showings of Riddle in a Bottle and The Shark Riddle at Parker Theatre on Thursday and Saturday at 9:30 and 11:00. Showings free for keiki under 10 both days.

“Having watched quite a bit of kids shows in my day, this was one of the funniest, sweetest, quirkiest, and most intelligent videos on rivers, ocean, and wildlife that I’d ever seen.”

—KATY YAN, INTERNATIONAL RIVERS, BERKLEY, CA
Energy and Rail

If the islands are impacted by the choices people make on the mainland, then we on the islands also have the ability to influence those choices, by first gaining a better understanding and awareness ourselves.

To start, it is useful to understand how we consume energy in this country. Approximately 31% of energy nationwide is consumed by industrial, commercial and residential uses, 41% by electric power, and 28% by transportation, which includes both personal transportation and the shipment of goods back and forth. All combined, approximately 36% of energy used is consumed by buildings.

What this says is that developing green forms of electricity and implementing green building design are essential components of our energy future. These technologies improve our lives in a myriad of ways, resulting in healthier and more pleasant spaces to live and work, cleaner air and water, and economic and job opportunities in cleaner technologies.

Transportation overall, and individual mobility in particular, is in many ways a more complex component of the energy issue to solve. Individual mobility is largely governed by land use planning and urban design. Solid transportation planning depends on comprehensive and supportive land use codes, and also an understanding of the true costs and issues involved in transportation.

Because rail is many times more efficient than the automobile, a rail-based transportation system benefits individuals, business, and government alike. One rail lane, for example, can move as many people per hour as 8 car lanes, which translates into a lot of real estate. Zermatt, Switzerland, a car-free town at the end of an efficient, Swiss rail line, provides one example of how a town can feel and thrive when more land is available for people to use.

As described by Wikipedia, “Zermatt can be a bit of a surprise: during the high season nearly 20,000 people live in a town with only 5 or 6 streets. This means that you can leave a noisy bar, and a few minutes later on foot find yourself in utter tranquility. You can sit on the hotel balcony and listen to dozens of varieties of songbirds while watching the sun set, and wake up with the sun to the sound of the aforementioned birds, crickets, church bells, and children’s laughter.”

While we aren’t likely to develop any car-free towns soon, a solid transportation system, one that incorporates rail, transit, pedestrian, bicycling and car traffic into an integrated system, improves the quality of life in communities while at the same time reducing the overall maintenance and land costs that that government, business and individuals have to bear. All while leaving more land available for people to use and enjoy.

What’s more, the few pedestrian-oriented cities and towns in the nation consistently rank at the top of any list of most desirable places to live. Ask people what they like about living there and the answer is always the same – people love being able to walk, or catch the train or metro, or ride their bikes.

Good transportation planning involves a shift in thinking, towards giving people options in terms of how they move from place to place. With travel at speeds of 150+ mph, in sleek, comfortable cars, high speed rail not only plays an integral role in a solid transportation system, but is exciting as well. People everywhere love trains. And, people everywhere benefit from their service, whether or not they have access to it themselves.

Join Dan Johnson, an attorney who works with the Midwest High Speed Rail Association, to learn more about rail, high speed rail, and the US corridors which would most benefit from high speed rail service. Dan Johnson will speak at 11:45 am on Sunday at HPA Gates.
David Gomes

Born and raised in Kohala, David Gomes became interested in musical instrument construction while studying guitar in Madrid, Spain in the early 70’s, where he became acquainted with the great Spanish guitar makers of the time. Since then, David Gomes has been building custom guitars and ukuleles in Kohala, and instructing a new generation of guitar and ukelele musicians. Sought after for his mastery of slack key guitar and ukulele, David has performed and played in venues in West Hawaii for over 40 years.

Twilight at Kalahuipua’a

Twilight at Kalahuipua’a is a monthly Hawaiian cultural celebration that includes storytelling, singing, and hula on the oceanside grassy lawn at Mauna Lani Resort. These full-moon events, created by Daniel Akaka, Jr., who is the Mauna Lani Bay Hotel & Bungalow’s director of cultural affairs, hearken back to another time in Hawaii, when family and neighbors gathered to sing, dance, and “talk story.”

Each month, the guests, ranging from the ultra-well-known in the world of Hawaiian entertainment to the virtually unknown local kupuna (elder), gather to perpetuate the traditional folk art of storytelling, with plenty of music and dance thrown in.

Twilight at Kalahuipua’a takes place on the Saturday closest to the full moon and gets underway around 5:30pm. Bring your picnic basket, cooler and camera.

Taste of Big Island

Join top chefs from the Big Island for the closing night ceremonies on Sunday, January 8th, which will be held in the lua’u grounds at the Mauna Kea Beach Hotel starting at 5pm.

Tickets for this fundraising event can be purchased at the Hospitality Desk at Kahilu Theatre starting January 4th, or by calling the festival office at 854-6095. Tickets are limited.

Featured this evening as part of a Polynesian-inspired Taste of Big Island are Red Water Café, Allen’s Table, Sushi Rock, Napua Beach Club, the Blue Dragon and Manta. Other special guests include Danny Akaka, Na Ka Lai Wa’a and David Gomes.
Trio of Local Artists

HARRY WISHARD
I love being on the beach early in the morning … first light, the cool but not cold morning air, the crisp clarity of the morning sky; and the water, gin-clear, not yet rippled by mid-morning thermals. It is a refreshing, rejuvenating feeling — peaceful. So when I want to paint this feeling, I start out with a beach. I’ll represent the beach with enough accuracy to make it recognizable … if accepted by the viewer, it gives them the sense that they are actually experiencing what they are looking at visually and emotionally. They are there.

Born and raised on the island of Hawaii, constantly surrounded by beauty, Harry Wishard acquired a love for art at an early age. Cascading waterfalls, remote valleys, rainforests, dynamic skies, and all that his tropical home has to offer, provide an endless source of subject matter for his realistic landscapes. Using the unique colors and light of his island home, Wishard strives to capture on canvas the hidden, sacred soul of Hawai‘i.

MILES M. MASON
“My paintings are an expression of the visual and emotional impact the tropics have made upon my life. They are meant to make you feel good, to capture your attention, and to draw you into the tropical world as seen through my eyes.”

Mason began his career as an artist while serving in the PeaceCorps in the Kingdom of Tonga. During his time there, he began sketching, photographing, and journaling his experiences not only among the island cultures of Tonga, but also those of Samoa, Fiji, Hawaii, and New Zealand, where he traveled extensively. His main interest was in documenting the seashells he collected while diving in the tropics.

Red/green colorblind, he initially shied away from sketching in color, instead creating elaborately stippled pen and ink drawings. Eventually foraying into watercolor, he innovated a technique of layering and stippling that creates vivid color not usually associated with watercolor. This style was then applied to his other works on canvas with oils and acrylics. Miles’ originals are in the hands of collectors throughout the world. His striking works have won numerous prizes at juried shows.

CHRISTIAN MCRAE ENNS
“I began painting at a young age; the ocean was my playground and I became intrigued by the ethereal qualities of light and atmosphere. The beauty of the earth and all its glorious nature cannot be depicted pictorially, but only represented in a poetic manner; like light, intangible yet present.”

Christian studied figurative realism and classical painting techniques at Laguna College of Art and Design in California, where he graduated cum laude with a Bachelor of Fine Arts Degree. He now works primarily with oil paint on panel or canvas. His work explores light and atmosphere as subject matter.

His experiences as a champion big wave surfer makes his perspective unique. Riding 50 foot waves brings to his art a certain high-energy life force. His current works are a reflection of his experiences in Puako, and the surrounding areas of the Big Island of Hawaii. With a varied approach and recognizable style Christian paints a variety of subject matter with an intense foundation and energetic feeling.

“Transforming my experience into my work often results in shifting and exaggerating colors, there is a visual excitement that is reflective of eternity; the mysteries of life and nature unfolded.”

Join Wishard Gallery for artist receptions Thursday, Friday and Saturday evenings from 4 to 6pm, and on Sunday from 1 to 3pm.
Kahilu Theatre

In the three decades since it opened in February, 1981, the Kahilu Theatre has staged more than 450 performances by local and international artists. Dance troupes, play productions, symphony orchestras, chamber quartets, acrobats, jugglers, taiko drummers, jazz bands, ballet dancers, comedians, pianists, guitarists, Hawaiian musicians, opera companies, singers, and performance artists of every description have graced the Kahilu Stage since the first performance with Richard Smart and Wisa d’Orso in “Oh Coward.”

Richard Smart, founder of the Kahilu Theatre, played an instrumental role in the development of Waimea. As sole heir to Parker Ranch, Richard was in a unique position to guide the growth and development of the town and surroundings. To that end, he devised the Parker Ranch 2020 Plan. And, like his stewardship of the Ranch, Richard Smart built the Kahilu Theatre with vision, with the intention of providing a place where drama, music, dance and all the performing arts could flourish, a place that would truly serve the community.

As a young man, Richard left the Big Island for New York City, where he performed for thirty years on Broadway. Richard eventually returned to take on the many responsibilities of ranch operations, but continued to perform, participating in productions in Honolulu and the U.S. mainland. Sometime in the 1970s, he decided to build a theatre in his hometown.

Construction was completed in 1980, at a cost of roughly $1.5 million. The 490 seat performing arts center was christened the Kahilu Theatre, Kahilu coming from the first part of the Hawaiian middle name of Richard’s mother. Richard acted in nearly two dozen productions during the theatre’s first twelve years of operation. When Richard passed away in 1992, the Kahilu lost its mentor and financial mainstay, and in 1994, the theatre became independent from Parker Ranch.

The Kahilu Theatre has since undergone a major revitalization coordinated by a committed board and dynamic managing director. Grants, memberships, fundraising events and show sponsorships now bring in over half of the Kahilu’s annual budget. The artistic programming during the past ten years has been similarly revamped to reflect the interests and needs of the community: shows increasingly reflect a tremendous diversity of international talent, creativity, imagination and performing art.

The Kahilu’s current season presents an expansive selection ranging from “Kulanihako’i: Living Waters,” a new hula drama drawing from epic Hawaiian myths over 2,000 years old, to the legendary Maceo Parker and his band, the tightest little funk orchestra on Earth, to the Szymanowski Quartet of Warsaw, one of the most exceptional international string quartets of its generation, and back again to Hawaiian performance with Uke Masters Kaapana, Ka’awa, Peterson, and Aweau, among many other dance, drama, and theatre events.

The theatre also reaches a greatly expanded youth audience, presenting performances for children at the theatre and having its visiting artists tour to area schools to present master classes, workshops and mini-performances. Year round and summer youth programs include the Youth Concert Season, the Keiki Art Show and the Photography Competition and Exhibition, After School Arts, and Summer Arts, a five-week program offering exceptional science and art intensives. As part of the Youth Series this past fall, the Waimea Ocean Film Festival screened festival selections including Papa Mau, Ocean Voyagers, and Sharkwater at the Kahilu, to which teachers from Honoka’a to Kona could bring their classes.

Richard’s legacy continues to flourish in Waimea, where the theatre serves as a center for residents and visitors alike to experience other cultures and explore the incredibly rich, diverse, and imaginative realm of artistic expression.
Synonymous with luxury and elegance, the Four Seasons Resort Hualalai is imbued with a green philosophy that extends to the core of its operations.

Company wide, each Four Seasons hotel has established a “Green Team,” comprising employees from all aspects of hotel operations. The Green Team’s efforts vary from property to property, but at the core is a focus on improving efficiencies through water usage, recycling, energy consumption and other operations. One initiative launched by the Green Council at the corporate office eliminated the use of 20,000 plastic water bottles per year by switching to filtered water throughout the building.

Four Seasons Vice President of Design and Construction, Dana Kalczak, assisted in the development of the book, Sustainable Hotel Siting, Design and Construction for the hospitality industry, which was published by Conservation International and the Prince of Wales International Business Leaders Forum. The book provides a set of guiding principles that can be used throughout the industry, and addresses energy and water efficiency, resource use and basic operating principles and practices.

At Hualalai, the latest initiative is the development of the Eco-Crescent at King’s Pond. Here, guests enjoy carafes of filtered water, rather than plastic water bottles, and find that great care is taken to green each detail throughout the room. In the bath area, for example, ceramic shampoo, conditioner and lotion containers replace disposable plastic bottles, rubber spa sandals replace disposable slippers, and the environmentally friendly linen program is automatically in place.

Behind the scenes, the Green Team continues to evaluate operations to improve efficiencies and reduce impact. Initiatives include a resort wide recycling program, the placement of re-cycle baskets in all guest rooms, the use of bamboo plates for banquet and special functions, the purchase of biodegradable plastic bags for deliveries, the use of remanufactured toners in office equipment, the purchase of a non-toxic dry cleaning machine, the installation of a salt water sanitation system in the Palm Grove pool area, and the recycling and re-use of boxes, milk crates and packing material.

Four Seasons Resort Hualalai has also partnered with Hawaiian Legacy Hardwoods in planting up to 500,000 “legacy” koa trees in the native Hawaiian forest. This initiative is part of a global effort underway by Four Seasons Hotels and Resorts to plant 10 million trees around the world, in recognition of the company’s 50th birthday.

These trees, to be planted over the next few years, will significantly contribute to the reforestation of this depleted species. As ‘legacy’ trees, they will not be harvested, and will live out their natural life as part of the forest ecosystem. Located 34 miles north of Hilo above historic Umikoa Village, this 2,700 acre sustainable forest was once home to the koa forest of King Kamehameha I, marking a historic and sacred place on the Island.

At the table, Executive Chef James Babian is recognized as an international leader in creating sustainable cuisine. The restaurants at Four Seasons feature 90 percent locally raised or sourced cuisine, working with 160 local farms, fishermen, and an in-house herb garden to achieve the mission of being sustainable, regional and artisanal.

As testimony to all Four Seasons does, and the philosophy which underlies its level of service, Pahu i’a, the signature restaurant at Four Seasons Resort Hualalai, was recently distinguished as the “Best Restaurant on Hawai’i Island” by Zagat Survey in 2011, winning top marks in all three categories: Food, Service and Décor.

“This Four Seasons involves employees and guests in the common goal of preserving and protecting the planet. We engage in sustainable practices that conserve natural resources and reduce environmental impact. As importantly, sustainable tourism will enhance and protect the destinations where Four Seasons operates for generations to come.”
Alexander & Baldwin

In keeping with its mission of philanthropy and stewardship, Alexander & Baldwin has been protective of pristine watershed lands for many decades and has formalized conservation management programs for several unique and fragile areas in partnership with private entities, government and environmental organizations, including the Nature Conservancy. Conserving soil and water are bedrock principles, evidenced by millions of dollars of investments in drip irrigation, hydroelectric generating facilities, and farming and factory practices that maximize re-use and strive for zero-waste.

Hawaiian Commercial and Sugar Company (HC&S) and McBryde Resources, two of Alexander & Baldwin's companies, are energy self-sufficient and also serve as sources of renewable energy for their communities, generating electricity from hydropower and the residual plant materials from agricultural operations. HC&S on Maui relies primarily on waste fiber from the sugar extraction process (bagasse) as a fuel source for power generation. HC&S’ factory design, utilizing multiple effect evaporation, makes its sugar refining process one of the most energy-efficient in the world. Excess power is sold to the local electric utility, providing approximately 6 percent of Maui's energy and 5 percent of Kauai’s energy. Earlier this year, Alexander & Baldwin announced plans for its first large-scale solar PV facility on Kauai, which is in the permitting process and expected to be completed next year.

Another Alexander & Baldwin company, Matson, has long established a reputation as one of the industry’s leading “green” carriers. Matson, along with SSAT, a Matson and SSA Marine venture, signed a lease amendment to the existing 20-year lease with the Port of Long Beach that is distinguished by its “green port” components designed to significantly reduce air emissions. The company also received the U.S. Coast Guard’s 2006 Rear Admiral William M. Benkert Marine Environmental Award for Excellence which recognizes outstanding work in marine environmental protection that goes beyond mere compliance with industrial and regulatory standards. Both of these milestones build upon Matson’s growing record of achievements related to protecting the environment of the communities it serves.

Matson was the only containership operator recognized in the 2006 Benkert Award process, which is conducted every two years. In order to be considered for this prestigious award, a company has to make outstanding achievements in marine environmental protection. Since 2003, Matson has developed a model for continuous improvement for reevaluating operational aspects and environmental impacts regularly and determining additional courses of action. In addition, Matson has implemented a number of specific programs since the early 1990s.

Matson’s Zero Discharge Policy program, started in 1993, provides that no solid waste, except for food scraps, is discharged overboard, but is instead segregated into a special “green container” and sorted to recycle. Matson was the first maritime company to implement such a program and to date, remains the only container vessel company operating such a program.

As part of Matson’s “green port” agreement with the Port of Long Beach, the port will invest $7.3 million to build a docksides electrical infrastructure for cold-ironing, which allows vessels to be electrically powered while in port, and Matson will retrofit its vessels accordingly. Moreover, Matson established an Matson Environmental Protection Zone (MEPZ), which prohibits any discharges through a vessel’s oil/water separator while a vessel within 50 miles from land. Matson also has as a policy that 100 percent of the ballast water on Matson ships is exchanged before the vessels arrive in port. This ensures the company has the cleanest possible ballast water and that no invasive species are released while a ship is in port.

Started in 2001, the Ka Ipu ‘Aina “Container for the Land” program keeps Hawaiian lands clean by providing a container for area cleanups conducted by 501(c)(3) non-profit groups and donating $1,000 to the group for their work. For the past three years, Matson and A&B employees have participated in annual coastal cleanups sponsored by the Ocean Conservancy. In 2005, approximately 170 employees participated and collected over 4,500 pounds of trash. In 2005, Matson also began working with the Hawaii Wildlife Fund to sponsor monthly beach cleanups on the Big Island to remove trash, particularly derelict fishing nets, from the shoreline. Once removed, the derelict fishing nets are transported to Honolulu’s H-Power to be recycled to generate electricity for the island.

Many of the areas Matson serves have exceptional natural beauty and the company is very cognizant of the ocean environment in which it operates. Matson, as an Alexander & Baldwin company and along with Alexander & Baldwin, works to serve the communities in which it operates, through innovation, leadership, stewardship and careful consideration at every level of operations.
The Waimea Ocean Film Festival depends on the generous support of its sponsors and patrons in order to bring together so many films, filmmakers, speakers and participants into one cohesive event. A big mahalo to all of these businesses and individuals for their support.

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