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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Hui No'eau Visual Arts Center and East Maui Watershed Partnership Present Mālama Wao Akua 2018

Receiving Day: Tuesday, August 28th from 9am – 6pm at Hui No'eau Visual Arts Center

Exhibition in Gallery: September 14th – November 9th

Where: Hui No'eau Visual Arts Center, 2841 Baldwin Ave. Makawao, HI 96768; Daily 9am – 4pm; Free Admission

Jurors: • Dr. Fern Duvall II, Maui Nui Program Manager for DLNR/DOFAW Native Ecosystems Protection & Management
• Mina Ellison, Curator at Kona Historical Society

Makawao - Hui No'eau Visual Arts Center and East Maui Watershed Partnership present the 14th annual Mālama Wao Akua, a fine art exhibition that creatively merges the worlds of art and conservation with works of art that honor Maui Nui's native plant and animal species. The exhibition is sponsored in part by Aloha Recycling, Inc. and the Hawai'i Tourism Authority.

Hui No'eau and East Maui Watershed Partnership invite Maui artists working in any medium to create work depicting only species native to Maui Nui (Maui, Lana'i, Moloka'i, Kaho'olawe), a landscape showcasing only native Maui Nui species, or people working to protect Maui's native species and native habitats from the mountain to the near shore reef. Mālama Wao Akua is a juried fine art exhibition with entry categories open to adults as well as elementary, middle & high school students residing in Maui Nui.

Prospectus and Entry Forms are available online at huinoeau.com. Artists planning to enter the exhibit are invited to attend several unique opportunities in August to learn about Maui's native species, including hikes into The Nature Conservancy's Waikamoi Preserve or Pōhakuokalā Gulch Hike at Haleakala Ranch; Native Plant Marine Connections and Cultural Tour with Cultural Practitioner Ko'i Lum; tours of The Merwin Conservancy; and more. More information on these events and how to sign-up is available at: mwa-art.org/blog or by calling 573-6999.

Conservation juror Fern Duvall works closely with conservation agencies to enhance and conserve biodiversity and preservation of the most unique and pristine lands in the state. Prior to his current position he was the Maui Nui non-game Wildlife Biologist for almost 25 years and has worked closely with Maui's seabirds, water birds and forest birds, and monitored native threatened and endangered plant status. He is also Chair of the Maui Nui Invasive Species Committee.

Art juror Mina Ellison is currently the curator at Kona Historical Society. With a background in anthropology, conducting oral history interviews, and the visual arts, Mina aims to utilize the voices of the people—in their own words—to tell meaningful stories in exhibits she curates. Born and raised in Kailua, Oahu, Mina is inspired by the land, sea and people. Earning bachelor degrees in Anthropology and French, as well as a M.A. in Museum Studies from New York University, Ellison has worked with organizations such as the Donkey Mill Art Center, the West Hawaii Community Health Center, American Indian Community House Gallery and Japan Society in New York City, as well as The Contemporary Museum, Honolulu. Mina serves on the Board of Directors for the Association of Hawai'i Archivists, Keōua Hōnaunau Canoe Club, and serves as the Community Representative on the School Community Council of the Hawaiian-language immersion school, Ke Kula o 'Ehunuikaimalino.

“Talk Story” Thursdays will take place at the Hui throughout the exhibition featuring different industry leaders from the field of conservation. Talks will take place from 5-6pm on these dates:

- **Sept. 20th:** Dr. Art Medeiros; Auwahi Forest Restoration Project, PCS
- **Oct. 4th:** Hank Oppenheimer, Maui Nui Plant Extinction Prevention Coordinator
- **Oct. 18th:** Nicole Davis, Maui Nui Marine Mammal Response Coordinator

- **Nov. 1st:** Allison Borell, Community Outreach and Education Liaison for East Maui Watershed Partnership and Field Staff

Hui No‘eau is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit, community-based, visual arts education organization offering open access to quality visual arts instruction by professional teaching artists and arts opportunities through year round youth and adult art classes, exhibitions, outreach programs, community art events, and more. The Hui is open to the public daily from 9am-4pm with free admission.

East Maui Watershed Partnership is committed to protecting our islands fresh water source and native rainforest health. The 100,000 acre East Maui watershed produces over 60 billion gallons of water a year and is home to many rare and endangered species. These watersheds represent our source of water, culture, and biodiversity. Learn more at eastmauiwatershed.org.

For more information about exhibition entry, please contact Hui No‘eau Exhibitions Coordinator Katie Peterson at katiep@huinoeau.com or call 808.572.6560 x33. Contact East Maui Watershed Partnership for information about community & school group hikes and presentations or for information about the watershed: pr@eastmauiwatershed.org or call 573-6999.