



2841 Baldwin Avenue Makawao, Hawaii 96768
808.572.6560 • info@huinoeau.com • huinoeau.com



P.O. Box 431, Makawao, HI 96768
Ph: (808) 573-6999 • Fax: (808) 573 - 6991
www.eastmauiwatershed.org • info@eastmauiwatershed.org

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View Award Winning Artwork in Mālama Wao Akua 2018

Makawao – Hui No‘eau Visual Arts Center in collaboration with East Maui Watershed Partnership (EMWP) brings you Mālama Wao Akua (Caring for the Realm of the Gods) – a juried art exhibition celebrating the native species of Maui Nui (Maui, Lana‘i, Moloka‘i, Kaho‘olawe). This unique exhibition opened to the public on September 14th and will remain in the Hui’s historic gallery space through November 10th with free admission between 9am – 4pm daily. This exhibition is generously sponsored by Aloha Recycling.

This year’s jurors were Dr. Fern Duvall II, Maui Nui Program Manager for DLNR/DOFAW Native Ecosystems Protection & Management and Mina Elison, Curator at Kona Historical Society. Selected artwork successfully shares knowledge of Maui County’s watersheds and native species with others in a meaningful way and includes originality of concept, creativity, technique, professionalism, and presentation.

Hui No‘eau and East Maui Watershed Partnership are excited to share this year’s award winners:

Juror's Choice (Dr. Fern Duvall) - *Kū lana wao* by Hōaka Reyes
Honorable Mention (Dr. Fern Duvall) - *Ode to Connie (Soft Geometry)* by Christine Haines
Juror's Choice (Mina Elison) - *Au ‘āpa ‘āpa ‘ā - passing of much time on a piece of land* by Denby Freeland
Honorable Mention (Mina Elison) - *Memories of the Grove* by Roberta Ann Weisenburg
Juror's Choice Elementary School - *Red Jewel* by Jai Manley
Juror's Choice Middle School - *Ae‘o* by Kira Gomez
Juror's Choice High School – *Pobinabina* by Heather Osterstock
Conservation at Work – *Forest First* by Melissa Bruck
Rarest Find – *Kanaloa* by Benjamin Rachunas
Conservation Professional - *‘Iwi Fights Back* by Byron Stevens

Both organizations invite the public to view this work for themselves and also to vote for the “People’s Choice Award” in the gallery. The community is also invited to learn more about Maui’s conservation efforts from leading experts during the exhibition’s “Talk Story” Thursdays. Talks will take place from 5 - 6pm in the Hui gallery on the following dates:

- **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. Hui No‘eau’s Exhibition Program is made possible with support from the Hawai‘i Tourism Authority.

East Maui Watershed Partnership is committed to protecting our islands fresh water source and native rainforest health. The 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 emwp.org.

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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.