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Puana Ka 'Ike lecture explores the historic significance of Kāneaka and He'eia

KAMUELA, Hawai'i—January 13, 2012—Māhealani Pai and Keone Kalawe of the Keauhou-Kahalu'u Education Group will discuss the historical significance of Kāneaka slide and He'eia Bay in Keauhou, North Kona, in an upcoming *Puana Ka 'Ike* lecture in Kona and an *Eia Hawai'i* presentation in Hilo.

The free presentations are scheduled from noon to 1:30 p.m. on Thursday, January 26, at the University of Hawai'i at Hilo, Campus Center Room 301, and from 5:30 to 7 p.m. on Friday, January 27, in Ballroom III at the Keauhou Beach Resort in Kona.

Kāneaka is the famous royal *kahua hōlua* (slide) in Keauhou, North Kona, whose current footprint is being captured through a plane table mapping project with island students. Cultural specialist Pai and lead mapping teacher Kalawe will share their ongoing research about the famous slide, its construction and sporting aspects, and He'eia, the bay into which Kāneaka's pathway once touched.

For lecture attendees wishing to have an onsite experience, Pai and Kalawe will lead a field study to Kāneaka and He'eia Bay from 8:30 a.m. to noon on Saturday, January 28. This field study will help participants understand the direct link between Kāneaka and He'eia Bay as well as the magnitude of the ancient sport of sledding. Space is limited; for reservations, contact Joy Cunefare at (808) 534-8528 or e-mail info@kohalacenter.org by Tuesday, January 24.

Since 2005, Pai has served as the cultural specialist of the Kamehameha Schools' Keauhou-Kahalu'u Education Group, which is responsible for the cultural learning and restoration of sites within these two *ahupua'a*. He is the founder of the cultural education programs Kia'i 'Aina Kualoia (Guardians of the Long back of the Land).

Pai's *mo'okū'auhau*, or genealogy, connects him with the ocean, and as a cultural practitioner and teacher, his work has touched several generations of learners. He is currently completing his Associates in Applied Science degree in the Hawaiian Lifestyles Hula track and Associate in Arts degree at the Hawai'i Community College in Hilo and Kona.

Kalawe resides in Kahuwai, Puna, where his family has lived for over 20 generations. Since 2007, Kalawe has traveled to Kahalu'u, where he serves as the onsite archaeologist and lead *kumu*, or teacher, in Hui Kaha Pōhaku, a project-based education program created by the

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Keauhou-Kahalu‘u Education Group. Under Kalawe’s tutelage, students in Hui Kaha Pōhaku produce professional quality plane table maps. These maps capture the current footprint of selected sites and are required by State agencies as part of the restoration process. Along with Leina‘ala Wilcox, Kalawe co-founded *Keala o ka Hōlua*, a foundation dedicated to the revitalization of *he‘e hōlua* or sledding.

For more information on these presentations or to reserve a space in the Saturday field study, contact Cunefare. For lecture schedules and webcasts of previous lectures, visit <http://kohalacenter.org/puanakaike/about.html> and www.keauhouresort.com/learn-puanakaike.html.

The Puana Ka ‘Ike and Eia Hawai‘i lecture series are presented in partnership with Keauhou-Kahalu‘u Education Group of Kamehameha Schools, The Kohala Center, the Kīpuka Native Hawaiian Student Center at the University of Hawai‘i at Hilo, and Keauhou Beach Resort.

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