



Testimony in support; Request to Award an Honorary Doctorate of Humane Letters to Kahu Kenneth Makuakāne, University of Hawai'i Maui College

1 message

Dre Kalili <dreanalee@aohcc.org>
To: bor.testimony@hawaii.edu

Mon, Feb 17, 2025 at 11:13 AM

Aloha:

Please accept the attached testimony from the Association of Hawaiian Civic Clubs in support of the request to award an honorary doctorate to Kahu Kenneth Makuakane.

Mahalo,
Dre Kalili
Pelekikena
Association of Hawaiian Civic Clubs

 **AOHCC Testimony_ UH BOR re K Makuakane (2-20-2025) (1).pdf**
643K



February 20, 2025

University of Hawai'i
Board of Regents
2444 Dole Street, Bachman 209
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96822

Subject: Request to Award an Honorary Doctorate of Humane Letters to Kahu Kenneth Makuakāne, University of Hawai'i Maui College

Aloha Chair Lee:

The Association of Hawaiian Civic Club submits this testimony in support of the agenda item regarding the request to award an honorary doctorate to Kahu Kenneth Makuakāne.

Kahu Kenneth Makuakāne is a member of the Kuini Pi'olani Hawaiian Civic Club, Hawaiian Civic Club of Honolulu, and has served many terms as Governor of the Hawai'i Academy of Recording Arts, demonstrating his commitment to civic responsibility, cultural preservation, and the advancement of Hawaiian music. He is recognized as one of Hawai'i's most prolific recording artists in his 51 year career in the recording arts industry, and has over 300 credits as a recording artist, producer, singer, composer, instrumentalist, and liner note writer. In addition to his career in Hawaiian music, he serves as the Senior Pastor of Kawaiaha'o Church, one of Hawai'i's oldest and highly respected churches.

At its 65th Annual Convention, the Association of Hawaiian Civic Clubs adopted Resolution 2024-52 which supports the conferring of this honorary doctorate to Kahu Kenneth Makuakāne. This resolution is attached.

Founded by Prince Kūhiō in 1918, the Hawaiian Civic Club movement is the oldest Native Hawaiian community-based advocacy movement. The Association of Hawaiian Civic Clubs is a not-for-profit organization that is a confederation of 60 individual and autonomous Hawaiian Civic Clubs and 3,500 members located across Hawai'i and across the continental United States.

We are grateful for your favorable consideration of this distinguished and well-earned honor.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Dre Kalili". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with a small dot above the 'i'.

Dre Kalili
Pelekikena

ASSOCIATION OF HAWAIIAN CIVIC CLUBS

A RESOLUTION

NO. 2024 - 52

SUPPORTING THE CANDIDACY OF REV. KENNETH MAKUAKĀNE TO RECEIVE AN HONORARY DOCTORATE BY THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAI‘I

WHEREAS, Rev. Kenneth Makuakāne has dedicated his life to the service of the Hawaiian community as a revered musician, composer, producer, spiritual leader, and cultural advocate; and

WHEREAS, Kahu Makuakāne’s legacy of service is rooted in the foundational values instilled by his parents, the late Rev. John Makuakāne, a well-respected Kahu, and Rev. Violet Makuakāne, both of whom were pillars in Hawai‘i’s faith community; and

WHEREAS, Rev. Makuakāne is a member of the Kuini Pi‘olani Hawaiian Civic Club, Hawaiian Civic Club of Honolulu, and has served many terms as Governor of the Hawai‘i Academy of Recording Arts, demonstrating his commitment to civic responsibility, cultural preservation, and the advancement of Hawaiian music; and

WHEREAS, Rev. Makuakāne is recognized as one of Hawai‘i’s most prolific recording artists in his 51 year career in the recording arts industry beginning with his first recording in 1973 as a member of Nā Leo O Kamehameha, featured in the groundbreaking album “In concert- Hawai‘i’s Stars Present Hawai‘i’s Youth”; and

WHEREAS, Kahu Makuakāne has over 300 credits as a recording artist, producer, singer, composer, instrumentalist, and liner note writer, showcasing his remarkable influence and contributions to Hawaiian music; and

WHEREAS, Kahu Makuakāne serves as the Senior Pastor of Kawaiaha‘o Church, one of Hawai‘i’s oldest and highly respected churches, where he continues to lead and inspire his congregation in alignment with the church’s 200+ year legacy; and

WHEREAS, during the COVID-19 pandemic, when many churches were closed, Rev. Makuakāne graciously invited fellow ministers, to co-preach from Kawaiaha‘o Church on alternating weeks, ensuring continued spiritual guidance to the community through online broadcasts; and

WHEREAS, Kahu Makuakāne is a 1973 graduate of the Kamehameha Schools and embodies the educational and cultural values that serve as a model for future generations of Hawaiian leaders.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Association of Hawaiian Civic Clubs at its 65th Annual Convention in Hamohamo, Waikīkī, O‘ahu, in the malama of Welehu and the rising of Hoku, this 16th day of November 2024, supporting the candidacy of Rev. Kenneth Makuakāne to receive an honorary doctorate by the University of Hawai‘i; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Association of Hawaiian Civic Clubs recognizes and celebrates Rev. Makuakāne’s remarkable contributions to Hawaiian culture, music, and faith, and his role as a spiritual and cultural leader of enduring impact; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a certified copy of this resolution be transmitted to Reverend Kenneth Makuakāne, the Board of Regents of the University of Hawai‘i, Kuini Pi‘olani Hawaiian Civic Club, the Kawaiaha‘o Church, the Hawai‘i Academy of Recording Arts, the Kamehameha School Archives, as well as the Governor of the State of Hawai‘i, President of the State Senate, Speaker of the State House of Representatives, Chair of the State Senate subject matter committee on Hawaiian Affairs, Chair of the State House subject matter committee on Hawaiian Affairs, Chair of the Board of Trustees of the Office of Hawaiian Affairs, and all County Mayors.



The undersigned hereby certifies that the foregoing Resolution was duly adopted in the malama of Welehu and the rising of Hoku, on the 16th day of November 2024, at the 65th Annual Convention of the Association of Hawaiian Civic Clubs in Hamohamo, Waikīkī.

Dreana K. Lee

Dreana K. Lee, President



Fwd: Honorary Doctorate of Humane Letters for Kahu Kenneth Makuakāne

1 message

Keola Donaghy <keoladonaghy@gmail.com>
To: bor.testimony@hawaii.edu

Tue, Feb 18, 2025 at 10:30 AM

Aloha pumenhana kākou. I am forwarding this email on behalf of the Association of Hawaiian Civic Clubs in support of Kahu Kenneth Makuakāne's nomination for an Honorary Doctorate of Humane Letters. I ask that it be included with other testimony supporting his nomination. Mahalo nui,

Keola Donaghy

On Tue, Feb 18, 2025 at 10:11AM Dre Kalili <dreanalee@aohcc.org> wrote:

Aloha:

Attached is our testimony to the Board of Regents.

Mahalo,
Dre

On Sat, Feb 15, 2025 at 2:06 PM Hailama Farden <hailamafarden@gmail.com> wrote:

Aloha, Could AoHCC provide testimony @Keola Donaghy if the Association of Hawaiian Civic Clubs were to send testimony, where might they send it? The AoHCC adopted a resolution at its last convention supporting Kahu's candidacy for this honorary doctorate. Mahalo - Aloha!!

On Sat, Feb 15, 2025 at 11:32AM Keola Donaghy <keoladonaghy@gmail.com> wrote:

Ka aroha mai (sorry!)

To be clear, he will not be awarded the doctorate at this meeting. It's simply the board voting to approve it, and he will receive it at the UH commencement in May.

Keola

On Sun, Feb 16, 2025 at 10:19AM Keola Donaghy <keoladonaghy@gmail.com> wrote:

Aloha e nā hoa, and mahalo again for supporting my nomination on behalf of Kahu Kenneth Makuakāne to receive an Honorary Doctorate of Humane Letters from UH. The board will be acting on my request this coming Thursday, Feb 20 at their meeting at UH-Hilo, and it will be viewable via the internet.

<https://www.hawaii.edu/offices/bor/regular/notice/202502200900.regular.pdf>

They don't show a specific time for addressing my request, and they have moved this agenda item to the top of their agenda as they and the new president have some quite pressing matters to deal with. The meeting starts at 9am and they will move on this after their housekeeping items are completed.

Please feel free to send this link to anyone who might be interested, but please let them know that the board has requested live testimony to be limited. Kenneth will ask two people from among his 'ohana and friends on Hawai'i island to speak on the family's behalf.

Again, mahalo for your support!

Keola

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Dr. Keola Donaghy

<http://www.keoladonaghy.com/>

Associate Professor of Music
Chair, Humanities Dept

<mailto:donaghy@hawaii.edu>

University of Hawai'i Maui College
Music Studies @ UHMC
Institute of Hawaiian Music

<http://maui.hawaii.edu/>
<http://maui.hawaii.edu/music>
<http://maui.hawaii.edu/ihm>

"Tír gan teanga, tír gan anam." (Irish Gaelic saying)
A country without its language is a country without its soul.

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Aloha Chair Lee:

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We are grateful for your favorable consideration of this distinguished and well-earned honor.

Sincerely,

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Dre Kalili
Pelekikena

ASSOCIATION OF HAWAIIAN CIVIC CLUBS

A RESOLUTION

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The undersigned hereby certifies that the foregoing Resolution was duly adopted in the malama of Welehu and the rising of Hoku, on the 16th day of November 2024, at the 65th Annual Convention of the Association of Hawaiian Civic Clubs in Hamohamo, Waikīkī.

Dreana K. Lee

Dreana K. Lee, President