

Teacher Workshop

`Ohana Wa`a (Navigation Workshop) – March 27

Kalepa Babayan, Master Navigator, conducted `Ohana Wa`a, a navigation workshop for educators. He and his crew taught 24 teachers how to use the Hawaiian Star compass, Hawaiian navigation star lines, and wind and wave patterns to plot voyage routes. Participants also learned appropriate cultural protocol, including *oli* and *mele*, associated with voyaging. `Imiloa education staff, Gail Loeffler and Christa Huey, attended the workshop and will use



their new knowledge to enhance student experiences. This workshop followed a three-day training conducted by Kalepa for 45 crew members from Hōkūle`a and other voyaging canoes.

Student Program

Ho`olauna Puna – March 28

Thirty middle-school students participated in a special excursion to `Imiloa as part of Ho`olauna Puna, an outreach program sponsored by Kamehameha Schools. This excursion was a “test run” for a summer series of programs focusing on “One Ocean, One Sky,” in which students will learn about Hawaiian navigation through special planetarium shows, Science on a Sphere presentations, and Exhibit Hall activities.

Special Events

`Imiloa’s First Anniversary



In celebration of its first year anniversary, `Imiloa hosted a free Community Day on Sunday, March 4. Approximately 2000 people participated in the day’s activities, which included garden tours, special planetarium and Science on a Sphere shows, hands-on activities for keiki, cultural demonstrations, theatrical performances, and live music.

Three young participants show off the Hawaiian star compasses they created in one of the Community Day hands-on activities.

Merrie Monarch Week

`Imiloa hosted a series of cultural programs during Merrie Monarch Week, April 19-14. The daily morning programs included: Plants Used in the Hula Tradition, Hula Instruments and Adornments, Merrie Monarch Pā`ū Riders, Hula Genealogy: The Rose Kuamo`o School, `A`a i ka Hula: The Life and Hula Training of Mary Kawena Pukui, and Mele: A Field Guide. `Imiloa visitors were also treated to a special hula performance by Hālau Hula `O Mehanaokalā from Japan one afternoon. A total of about 650 people attended the various programs throughout the week.

Kaluaiko`olau – March 8

In collaboration with Ka Haka `Ula O Ke`elikōlani (UHH College of Hawaiian Language), `Imiloa hosted the premiere of a video produced by students of Ke Kula o Ni`ihau o Kekaha. The video presents the life story of Kaluaiko`olau, a Hawaiian man who was stricken by leprosy in the 19th century, and his and his family's escape to the valley of Kalalau on Kaua'i. Students who produced the video, which is narrated in Hawaiian, participated in a panel discussion after the showing. More than 100 people, many of whom are students at Ka Haka `Ula O Ke`elikōlani, attended the presentation.

Educational Outreach

Mauna Kea Visitor Information Station (VIS)

On Saturday, March 3, about 80 people attended a presentation by Richard Crowe, `Imiloa Astronomer-in-Residence, at Hale Pohaku as part of the VIS Universe Tonight series. His talk featured `Imiloa's Image of the Day—spectacular images displayed one-per-day on the planetarium dome prior to each show. Dr. Crowe selects and writes captions for each image, many of which highlight the latest research from telescopes atop Mauna Kea.



AstroDay 2007



`Imiloa participated in the AstroDay festival at Prince Kuhio Mall on Saturday, April 21. Staff and volunteers from `Imiloa provided general information about services and products offered at the Center, as well as an educational activity. More than 200 people took on the “Constellation Challenge” created by `Imiloa's Education Team—Janet Babb, Richard Crowe, Christa Huey, and Gail Loeffler. The challenge was designed to help children (and adults) identify constellations in the April night sky.

Public Programs

Lecture and Book Signing

Dr. Bo Reipurth from the Institute for Astronomy presented a talk about his book, “The Birth of Stars and Planets,” on March 31. Following his talk, Dr. Reipurth signed copies of his book, which combines recent astronomical images and data with descriptions of new discoveries about star and planet formation. About 75 people attended this exciting presentation.



DVD Presentation and Book Signing



On Saturday, April 7, Gail Evenari presented her documentary film, “Wayfinders: A Pacific Odyssey,” to an audience of more than 100 people. Her film traces the extraordinary accomplishments of Polynesian seafarers as well as the efforts of today's Pacific Islanders who are building double-hulled voyaging canoes as part of their quest to rediscover their rich oceanic heritage. After the presentation, Ms. Evenari signed copies of her DVD and accompanying book.

`Ohana Discovery Day – April 15



Sixteen children and nine adults participated in a two-hour family event focusing on Hawaiian voyaging and navigation. Through role-playing and exploratory activities, participants learned about the Hawaiian star compass and how master navigators use the compass points to sail to far-away islands without the help of modern technology.

Sky Tonight – March 31

Peter Michaud, Gemini Observatory Public Information Officer, introduced stars of the spring and early summer constellations and talked about “Celestial Motions,” the myriad motions of objects in the night sky. Kirk Pu`uohau-Pummill, Gemini Graphic Arts and Computer Specialist, showed stunning images photographed in Gemini South Observatory on Cerro Pachon in Chile.

Sky Tonight – April 28

Richard Crowe, `Imiloa Astronomer-in-Residence, shared stories of the stars. Dr. Hideki Takami from Subaru Telescope spoke about adaptive optics, a new technique for astronomical telescopes to reduce the effect of atmospheric turbulence.

Staff and Volunteer Training

“Brown Bag Seminars,” a series of 30-minute presentations conducted for `Imiloa staff and volunteers during their lunch time, provide information relevant to astronomy, the Hawaiian culture, and `Imiloa’s mission. Recent programs include:

- ◆ Constellation Identification, by Richard Crowe and Gail Loeffler (March 1)
- ◆ `Imiloa’s participation in Hōkūle`a’s Japan voyage, by Ka`iu Kimura (March 15)
- ◆ How to use Star Charts, by Richard Crowe and Gail Loeffler (April 5)
- ◆ Native Plants in `Imiloa’s Landscape, by Hōkūao Pellegrino (April 19)

Justina Mattos conducted orientations for new volunteers on March 3, March 10, and April 28. On March 17, Keoki Bezilla trained new volunteers on how to conduct guided tours. Hōkūao Pellegrino introduced volunteers `Imiloa’s gardens and landscaping on April 5.

Staff Development and Collaboration

Janet Babb and Gail Loeffler traveled to Honolulu on April 9 to learn about the Bishop Museum K-12 school field trip program, and are now assessing how they might adopt/adapt similar strategies to improve school field trips at `Imiloa.

`Imiloa collaborated with Bishop Museum to prepare a U.S. Department of Education grant proposal titled Education Through Cultural and Historical Organizations (ECHO). This funding will be used to develop audio tours for `Imiloa’s Exhibit Hall.

In March, `Imiloa’s Education Team collaborated with the National Optical Astronomy Observatory in Tucson, AZ to collect data for the Globe at Night program. The data, which will show how light pollution is affecting the night sky above Hawai`i Island, was collected using digital sky quality meters and unaided-eye observations over a period of three weeks.