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Layout Artist: Nicole Lee

Kīhei Ceremony

John A. Burns School of Medicine
2010-2021



Dee-Ann Carpenter, MD



This book is dedicated to Richard Kekuni Akana Blaisdell, MD, our mentor, teacher, advocate and historian. He is the first Chair of the John A. Burns School of Medicine Department of Medicine, Professor Emeritus in the Department of Native Hawaiian Health, and founder of 'Ahahui o nā Kauka (Association of Native Hawaiian Physicians).

We stand on the shoulders of those who came before us.
Mahalo Kekuni, for being our *kahua* (foundation) and leading the way.

'Ōlelo no'eau: #339 'Eli'eli kūlana o 'Āina 'ike
Profound is the nature of 'Āina 'ike.
(refers to a person respected for the depth of his knowledge)

Mo'okūauhau (Story)

JABSOM Kīhei Ceremony

"In times past, when a child matured to the extent that he was cognizant of and able to assume the authority and knowledge that comes with adulthood, he was viewed as having attained a different level of readiness. This achievement was commemorated through the tying on of a *kīhei*. This robing ceremony continues today as a rite of passage, showing the readiness of the child to undertake the responsibilities of maturity as a Hawaiian ..." from Ke Kula 'O Samuel Manaiākalani Kamakau.

Years ago, Dr. Martina Kamaka introduced the idea of a *kīhei* ceremony to 'Ahahui o nā Kauka (Native Hawaiian Physician's Association) meetings after having seen them done at her children's school. She suggested giving a special recognition to those Native Hawaiian students who are about to graduate from medical school. A *kīhei* was chosen to symbolize the rite of passage of the *haumana* (student) to *kauka* (doctor) as they go on to the next stage of training, known as residency. It is a Native Hawaiian cloak of protection, of responsibility, from his or her path to graduation which can be used in ceremony and protocol. This *kīhei*, made by each student, will be part of his or her story, Native Hawaiian heritage and life journey.

The John A. Burns School of Medicine (JABSOM) is particularly proud that in 2004, it became the nation's first accredited medical school with a clinical department dedicated to the health of an indigenous people of the U.S.-- Native Hawaiians. About 20% of Hawai'i's residents are Native Hawaiian; Native Hawaiian physicians make up only about 4.5% of Hawai'i's full-time doctors.

In 2010, 12 Native Hawaiians were to graduate; this was almost double the number of Native Hawaiians that had typically graduated from JABSOM in many years. It was time to have a Kīhei Ceremony to honor this group. With the help of a few students in that class, we were able to make it happen. Marcus Iwane and his then girlfriend (now wife), 'Ānela Nacapoy, worked with Dr. Kaholokula to develop the oli that were to be used during the ceremony. Marcus and 'Ānela along with a friend, Leimomi Sing, taught the class how to make *kīhei* and brought an *ohe kapala* (bamboo stamp used to create the *kīhei* design) for them to use. Students rallied their classmates and obtained the support

of the administration to make *kīhei* that could be used not only in the Kīhei Ceremony, but also convocation and graduation. It was at this time, that other schools, especially Hawaiʻinuiākea, were also making and using *kīhei* at graduation. Kumu Mehana Hind was consulted to develop the protocol for the Kīhei Ceremony that is still used today. I garnered support from the 'Ahahui o nā Kauka and the Native Hawaiian Center of Excellence to help pay for the making of *kīhei* and the Kīhei Ceremony. This first Kīhei Ceremony was held at Kamakakūokalani Center for Hawaiian Studies at the University of Hawaiʻi at Mānoa. Thereafter, the Kīhei Ceremonies have been held at JABSOM, in the auditorium or the *mala* (garden). As of 2012, Kanoë-Lehua de Silva's mother, Kumu Kapa Kaʻiulani de Silva has been helping each class with the making of their *kīhei*.

A unique annual event, the Kīhei Ceremony, honors the achievement and commitment of our *kauka* 'ōpio (young doctor) of Native Hawaiian ancestry. The JABSOM Native Hawaiian students of the MD class meet to decide upon a class design. They then meet to craft a *kīhei*. It is custom for the *kauka* 'ōpio to make his/her own *kīhei*. Each *kīhei* will tell the story of that student's journey to medicine, in addition to the class design. Similar to a physician's white coat, the *kīhei* symbolizes the *kuleana* (responsibility) the new graduate will have as a future Native Hawaiian physician.

Days before graduation, the Kīhei Ceremony starts with the *kauka* 'ōpio performing the *oli kahea*, answered by a *kauka* with an *oli pane*. After a *pule* (prayer), the Kīhei Ceremony also includes mentoring from current *kauka* who will speak to the importance of *kuleana* (responsibility), *pono* (doing what is right) and *lokahi* (teamwork). Thereafter, *kīhei* are presented to the *kauka* 'ōpio by a member of the 'Ahahui o nā Kauka, and a *lei* is presented by a JABSOM Department of Native Hawaiian Health Native Hawaiian Center of Excellence (NHCOE) faculty. The *kauka* 'ōpio will speak about their class design in addition to their personal *kīhei* design, representing their journey to medicine. The *kauka* 'ōpio are blessed to have family and friends join them in this auspicious celebration. *Mea 'ai* (food) is shared after the ceremony.

Year	Design of Kīhei	# Native Hawaiian Students	Non-Hawaiians who made kīhei
2010	Kukul & 'Ohia Lehua (NH Medicine Plants)	12	2
2011	Kukul/Lau (NH Medicine Plants)	6	0
2012	Malle (lei plant for important occasions) dyed kīhei	5	1
2013	--	0	0
2014	Ua (rain)	5	0
2015	Kaulla (lightning)	6	0
2016	Kulia I ka nu'u I uka (striving for summit)	3	1
2017	Wai (fresh water)	5	0
2018	Nalu (Wave, Flowing-adaptable)	4	1
2019	A'ali'i Ku Makani (strong plant that resists wind); dyed kīhei	12	0
2020	Makani (wind)	7	0
2021	Piko (connection to past, present, and future)	12	0

Kīhei Designs 2010-2021

2010



2011



2012



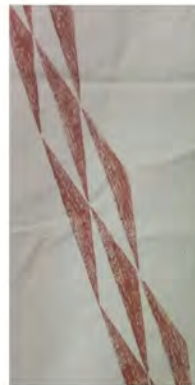
2014



2015



2016



2017



2018



2019



2020



2021



Class of 2010



Kauka 'Ōpio

Tim Au
Nalani Gauen
Kimberly Gerard
Marcus Iwane
Christian Kikuchi
Kehau Kong
Jordan Lee
Kapua Medeiros
Andrew Middleton
Heather Miner
Kawika Mortenson
Keola Richardson
Joshua Santos

Residency

University of Hawai'i
Tripler Army Medical Center
University Arizona Affil Hospital
University of Hawai'i
Hospital of the University of PA
Phoenix Baptist Hospital
Scripps Mercy Hospital
University of Hawai'i
Jackson Memorial
Ventura County Medical Center
University of Hawai'i
Duke University Medical Center
UCLA Medical Center

Specialty

Internal Medicine
Pediatrics
Surgery-Preliminary
Internal Medicine
Surgery-Preliminary
Family Medicine
Internal Medicine
Family Medicine
Neurosurgery
Family Medicine
Pathology
Orthopedic Surgery
Internal Medicine

Kīhei Design - Class of 2010

We as a class chose to *kapala* our *kīhei* with *kukui* and *'ohi'a*. The *kumu kukui* to our class is significant in that it is a symbol of enlightenment, especially for us as we embark on this new endeavor in our lives. The *kukui* has many uses, one of which includes *lā'au lapa'au*. As we transition from a *haumana* to *kauka*, we look to the *kukui* to provide us light and guidance. Our *mele* composed for our class reflects how far we've journeyed to come to this transition point entering the next phase of our lives. We look up *mauka*, from our *mala* or garden in Kou, and see Lanihuli adorned with *kukui*. This forest of *kukui* symbolizes our *Kumu* and their vast knowledge and expertise. We look up at Lanihuli in anticipation of joining our *kumu* in this *wao kanaka*. The *kukui* is also a symbol of our *hui* who started Ka Lama Kukui, indigenous medical student interest group that strives to give back to the community by participating in health screenings.

A hand-carved *ohe kapala* was also presented to our class as a *makana* to be used in the printing of our *kīhei*. The design chosen for our *ohe kapala* is the *'ohi'a lehua*, a native plant cherished for its beauty, strength and many uses. The *lehua kapala* design is a constant reminder that we are Hawaiian first and foremost. No matter where we go from here or what we decide to do, the one thing that we will always have in common is that we are Hawai'i. One of the physical characteristics of the *lehua* is that it is always the first to *puka* from the lava flow. No matter if Pele consumes a native or invasive forest, the very first *lā'au* to *puka* is always the *'ohi'a lehua*. Thus, the *'ohi'a lehua* sign of Hi'iaka, healing and rebirth after devastation. Hawaiians continue to face many challenges including suffering from the highest prevalence of chronic illnesses like diabetes, hypertension and heart disease. We all chose a career in medicine and now have the opportunity to *ho'ōla*, to take part in the cycle of rebirth for Hawaiians following mass devastation.

Our *kīhei* is a symbol of our accomplishments and it will serve as a constant reminder of our *kuleana* and Hawaiians and *kauka*. We hope to embody the unique and special properties of both the *kukui* and *'ohi'a lehua* in our lives.

(Marcus Iwane)

Making *Kīhei*



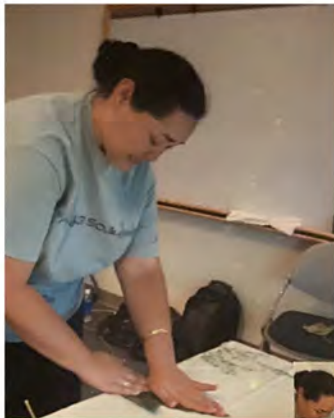
Jordan



Keola and
wife, Jessica



Marcus



Kehau



Leilani and 'Ānela
taught class how to make *kihei*



Christian



Kukui



Kauka 'Ōpio

Kīhei Ceremony



Kauka 'Ōpio



with Ahahui o nā Kauka

Convocation



Wearing kīhei



At convocation

Class of 2011



The *lau* chosen was *kukui*, *kalo* and *palapalae*, from the *mala* (garden) at JABSOM. In addition, some of the students used *kapala* in their design, bringing in the rain to water the *la'au*, plants used in healing.

Kauka 'Ōpio

Kaumaka Calhoun
Spring K. Golden

Erin Kalua
Seren Tokumura
David Yamane
Noah K. Yuen

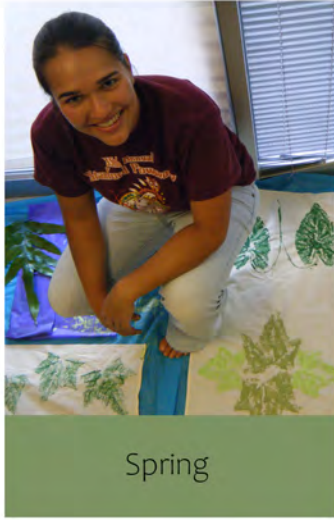
Residency

University of California Davis
University of Hawai'i
Oregon Health and Science University
University of Hawai'i
University of Colorado
Brigham and Women's Hospital
University of California Davis

Specialty

Internal Medicine
Transitional
Dermatology
Family Medicine
Surgery – Prelim
Emergency Medicine
Surgery

Making *Kīhei*



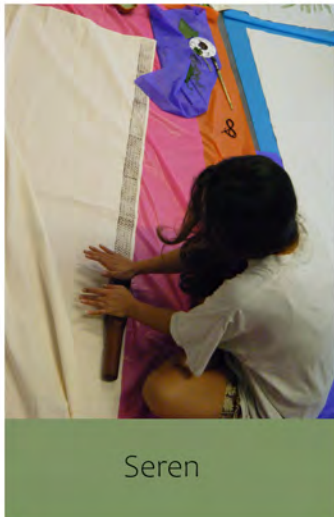
Spring



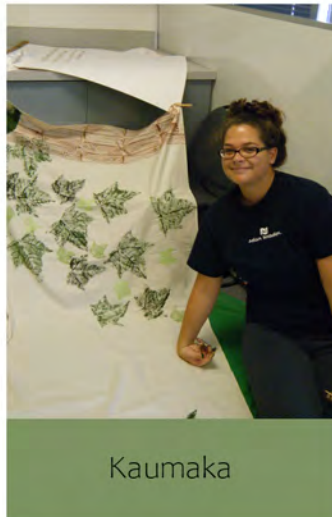
Noah



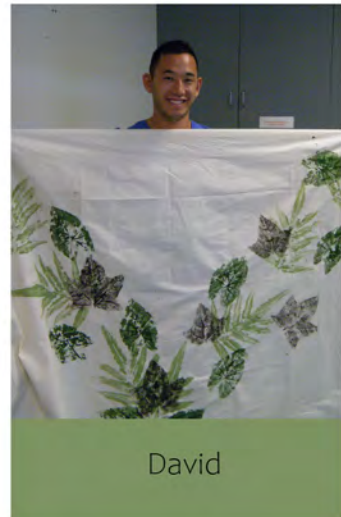
Erin



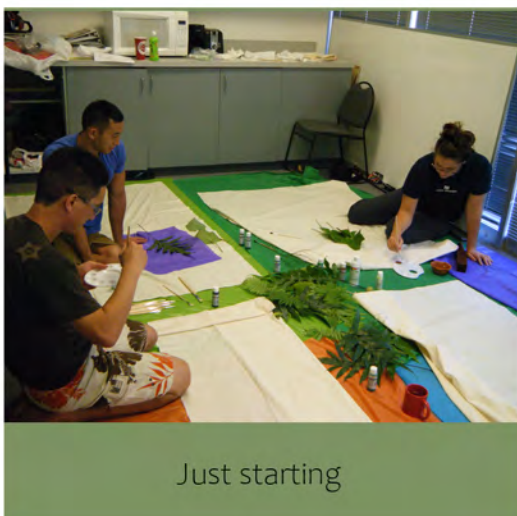
Seren



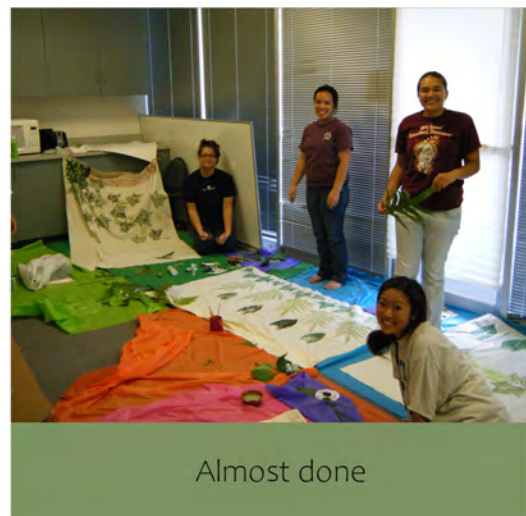
Kaumaka



David



Just starting



Almost done

Kīhei Ceremony



Oli Kahea



Oli Pane



Awating their Kīhei



Celebrating Erin



Kauka 'Ōpio, 'Ahahui o nā Kauka, Department of Native Hawaiian Health Chair Kaholokula, Native Hawaiian Center of Excellence, OSA Director Smerz, Dean Hedges and Kauka Kekuni Blaisdell.

Kihei presented to Dean Jerris Hedges



The University of Hawai'i Department of Native Hawaiian Health presented a special *kihei* at 2011 Kihei Ceremony to honor Dr. Jerris Hedges, Dean of the John A. Burns School of Medicine since 2008. Dean Hedges has been learning and understanding Hawaiian culture and cultural protocol, and has been present at every Kihei Ceremony since inception.

The *kihei* presented to Dean Hedges is one worn by the faculty in the Department of Native Hawaiian Health, adorned by *kukui*, symbolizing enlightenment of *'ike* (knowledge) that we have that is shared within and beyond JABSOM.

Dr. Hedges earned his bachelor's degree in aeronautics and astronautics, his master's degree in chemical engineering, and his medical degree at the University of Washington. He completed his emergency medicine residency at the Medical College of Pennsylvania, practiced in his home town of Olympia, Washington, and served as faculty at the University of Cincinnati School of Medicine before joining Oregon Health & Sciences University (OHSU). Dr. Hedges also holds a Master of Medical Management from the Marshall School of Business at the University of Southern California.

Dr. Jerris Hedges is known nationally as co-author to one of the leading texts in patient care, Roberts and Hedges' Clinical Procedures in Emergency Medicine, now in its sixth edition. In Hawai'i, he is known as a leader who has built vital bridges between JABSOM's community partners and collaborators, in the fields of life sciences. In 2013, he was recognized as "Physician of the Year" by the Hawai'i Medical Association. In addition to his many accolades, he is also the Barry and Virginia Weinman Endowed Chair.

Class of 2012



The students chose to adorn their *kīhei* with images of *maile*, to symbolize the entwining of various cultures and paths. They used traditional *ohe kapala*, thanks to Kanoë-Lehua's mother, Kumu Kapa Ka'iulani de Silva, to show a modern expression of *maile*, also representing the togetherness of this class. The green dye at the bottom of their *kīhei* represents health and healing, nature and nurture.

Kauka 'Ōpio

Natalie N.Y. Albanese
Taylor J.K. Choy

Bianca K. Chun
Kanoë-Lehua E. de Silva
Melanie Payanal
Leah K. Wang

Residency

NYU School of Medicine
University of Hawai'i
UCLA Medical Center
Naval Hospital
University of Hawai'i
University of Hawai'i
University of Hawai'i

Specialty

Internal Medicine-Preliminary
Internal Medicine-Preliminary
Diagnostic Radiology
Family Medicine
Obstetrics-Gynecology
Family Medicine
Pediatrics

Making *Kīhei*



Mel



Leah



Finished Product

Kīhei Ceremony



Kauka 'Ōpio, Ka papa 2012



Hawai'i Aloha

Remembering Taylor J.K. Choy, MD



Taylor making his *Kihei*



Leah and Taylor at their
Kihei Ceremony



Taylor Choy with his parents following the traditional *Kihei* Ceremony

Taylor J.K. Choy, MD, a 2012 graduate of the John A. Burns School of Medicine (JABSOM) passed away on Monday, June 11, 2018 in Los Angeles, California. He was just 31 years old.

He married Connie Lin on September 17, 2016. Taylor was diagnosed with glioblastoma in February 2017.

"He was sweet, kind, hopeful, confident yet humble, selfless, and brilliant. His battle with cancer heightened rather than diminished those characteristics, and unveiled a quality of steady bravery on top of everything else."

Class of 2014



This class chose *ua* (rain) as their design, since they all grew up in rainy places on their respective islands. Rain is cleansing for the land and helps to make everything grow. We would not survive without water.

Kauka 'Ōpio

Akolea Ioane
Sara Ku'ulei Miles
Kenneth Ortiz

Residency

Virginia Commonwealth University
University of Hawai'i
University of Hawai'i

Specialty

Family Medicine
Family Medicine
Family Medicine

Making *Kīhei*



Making *Kīhei* with Kumu Kapa Ka'ūlani de Silva



Ohe Kapala for Making *Kīhei*

Kīhei Ceremony



Kīhei Ceremony



Ken



Ku'u lei



Akolea



Before



After

Class of 2015



Uila, or lightning came to mind when thinking of this group of *kauka 'ōpio*. This was a very strong class, with most of them going into a surgical subspecialty, swift in thinking and physically precise in their work. Lightning also means unity and strength to this class.

Kauka 'Ōpio

Kaimana Chow

Christy Ann Gilman

Steven Gonsalves

Sally Markee

Austin Nakatsuka

Anne Wright

Residency

University of Texas

Southwestern Med School

SUNY Upstate Med University

University Arizona Affil Hospitals

University of Hawai'i

University of Hawai'i

University of Texas/Methodist

University of Hawai'i

Specialty

General Surgery

Internal Medicine

Orthopedic Surgery

Obstetrics/Gynecology

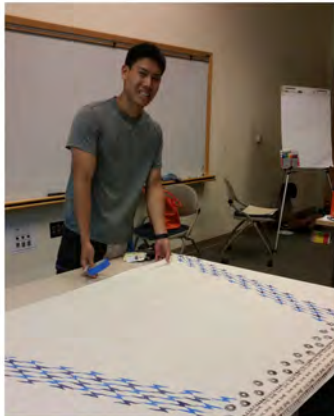
Transitional

Ophthalmology

Orthopedic Surgery/

Research

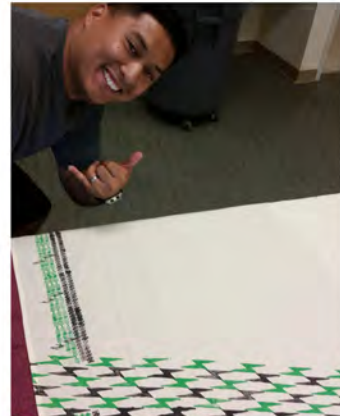
Making *Kīhei*



Austin



Sally



Steven



Christy



Kaimana



Anne



Choosing the layout



All done

Making *Kīhei*



Working with
Kumu Kapa Ka'iulani de Silva



Letting



The Paint



Dry

Kīhei Ceremony



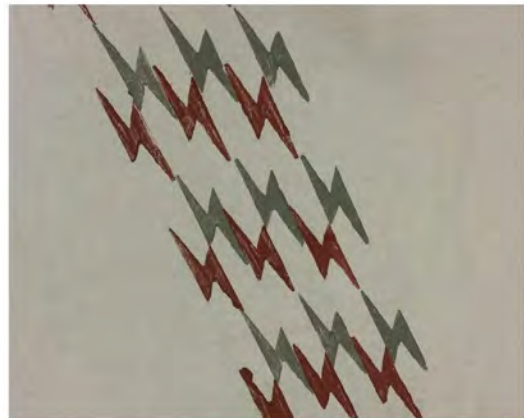
Kauka 'Ōpio



With Dean Hedges and
Dr. Kekuni Blaisdell



Kaimana recieving his *kīhei*



Uila (lightning)



The table is set



Drs. Kamaka and Blaisdell

Class of 2016



This class is always reaching for more knowledge, climbing up to find answers to care for their patients and never giving up. Hence, their design is the *mauna* (mountain), representing the 'olelo nō'eau #1913 "Kulia I ka nu'u" – Strive to reach the summit.

Kauka 'Ōpio

Lauren Hu

Karra Marh

Randi Olds

Residency

University of Hawai'i

University of New Mexico SOM

UC Riverside SOM

University of Hawai'i

Specialty

Internal Medicine-Preliminary

Anesthesia

Family Medicine

Internal Medicine

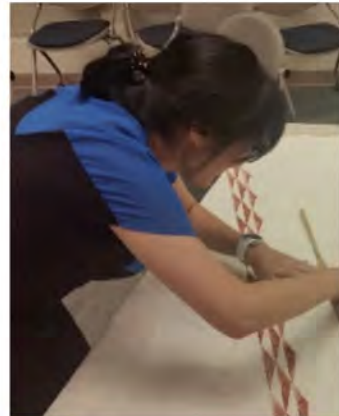
Making *Kīhei*



Lauren



Class and
Personal Design



Karra



Lauren



Randi



Karra



Working Together



With Kumu Kapa Ka'iulani de Silva

Kīhei Ceremony



Mauna (Mountain)



Randi



Karra



Lauren



Kauka 'Ōpio

Kīhei presented to Dr. Satoru Izutsu



The University of Hawai'i Department of Native Hawaiian Health presented a special *kīhei* at the 2016 Kīhei Ceremony in recognition of his long service to the school and the students of the John A. Burn School of Medicine (JABSOM).

Dr. Satoru Izutsu was a graduate of Mid-Pacific Institute, University of Hawai'i, Columbia University, and Case Western Reserve University. He is a licensed Psychologist with interests in intellectual development, the physically challenged, and gerontology. He served the Army during the Korean War, and retired as a Colonel from the active Reserves.

Dr. Izutsu is the longtime head of admissions at the University of Hawai'i's JABSOM and has been recognized with many awards, one of whom was the "President's Award" from the Hawai'i Medical Association. Dr. Izutsu has served many roles, especially in international public health, but many believe his leading role has been in selecting the students admitted into JABSOM as his greatest contribution to the health of the people of our state and region. He has served as Director of Admissions at JABSOM for 23 years. During that time, he interviewed 3,800 applicants, with over 1,000 students admitted, of whom 97% graduated from JABSOM. Dr. Izutsu often says that he believes "JABSOM's physicians are not only the brightest, but the best".

Dr. Izutsu, thank you for all that you've done for JABSOM, but mostly for our Native Hawaiian graduates. You've been present at all of their accomplishments, from admission to Kīhei Ceremony and everything in between.

Class of 2017



This class resonated with *ua* (rain) and *wai* (water), important for all living things. Used to cleanse ourselves and our *'aina* (land) and clear the path for more knowledge.

Kauka 'Ōpio

Courtney Gaddis
Alyssa Honda
Eric Lau
Samuel Ho
Chelsey Ruth

Residency

University of Hawai'i
Stanford University Programs
Arrowhead Regional Medical Center
Oregon Health & Sciences University
University of Hawai'i

Specialty

Pediatrics
Pediatrics
General Surgery
Emergency Medicine
Psychiatry

Making *Kīhei*



Eric



Courtney



Alyssa



Chelsey



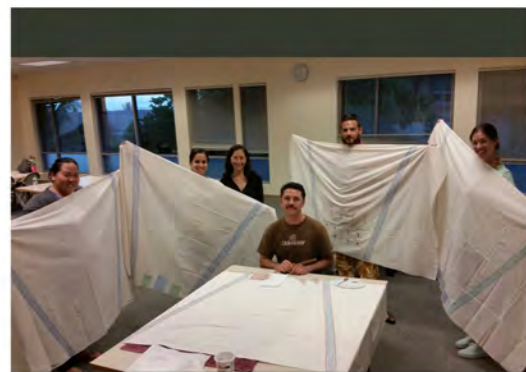
Sam



Alyssa



Making of



Pau

Kīhei Ceremony



Ua



Wai



Lei



‘Ohana



Dr. Nate Wong - Pule



Kauka ‘Ōpio

Kīhei Ceremony



Awaiting their *kīhei*



Receiving *kīhei*



Receiving *kukui lei*



Ho'omaika'i

Class of 2018



The waves represent that there has been many changes in the past and there will be many more changes in the future and if you roll with them you will find success in whatever waves come your way. (Quinlin Adolpho)

The *mana'o* behind the "*nalu*" is the waves of the ocean that touch each island and connect them together. "*Nalu*" also means to reflect or ponder. (Nina Leialoha Beckwith)

Waves come in sets, and our class is one of those sets. Although most marvel at the glistening part of the wave that peaks up over the horizon, the true power of that wave is under the surface. We are a set of waves with a somewhat average appearance but strong current underneath. (Nohea Leatherman-Arkus)

To me, *nalu* truly represents not only the "easy-going" nature of our entire class, but also the spirit of togetherness and *aloha* that our class embodies. (Monika Young)

Kauka 'Ōpio

Quinlin Adolpho
David Bailey
Nina Beckwith
Leimomi Kanagusuku
Nohea Leatherman-Arkus
Monika Young

Residency

University of Hawai'i
Orlando Health
University of Hawai'i
University of Hawai'i
University of Texas SW Med School
CA Pacific Medical Center

Specialty

Internal Medicine
Emergency Medicine
Family Planning
Family Planning
Pediatrics
Internal Medicine

Making *Kīhei*



Quinlin



Monika



Nohea



Leimomi



David



Nina



Pick a color



Finished

Kīhei Ceremony



Honi



Honi



Honi



Explaining meaning
of kihei



NHCOE Faculty



'Ahahui Kauka



Preparing



The table

Kīhei Ceremony



Kauka 'Ōpio



Kauka 'Ōpio



'Ōhana



Kauka 'Ōpio



DNHH Faculty & Dean Hedges



Kauka - 'Ahahui & JABSOM Faculty

Class of 2019



Kauka 'Ōpio

Ailea Apana
Megan Araujo
Michael Bergoli
Marci Chock
Jayden Galamgam
Keahi Horowitz
Andrew Kinimaka
Jennifer Lyman
Ashley Morisako
Kathryn Roberts
Leina'ala Song
Keolamau Yee

Residency

University of Hawai'i
University of Hawai'i
University of Arizona COM
University of Hawai'i
Harbor UCLA Med Center
University of Hawai'i
Kaiser Permanente Hawai'i
University of Hawai'i
Kaiser Permanente Hawai'i
Riverside Community Hospital
Kaiser Permanente Hawai'i
University of Hawai'i

Specialty

Psychiatry
Psychiatry
Internal Medicine
Internal Medicine
Dermatology
Internal Medicine
Internal Medicine
Psychiatry
Internal Medicine
Family Medicine
Internal Medicine
Internal Medicine

Kīhei Design - Class of 2019



Our theme this year is the *a‘ali‘i* bush, a spindly shrubby bush normally found growing in various climates across the Hawaiian islands. It was used in ancient times for tool and weapon making, and its fruits and leaves were used to dye *kapa* a dark red/brown color which inspired the colors of our *kīhei*. We chose the *a‘ali‘i* bush for its known resilience and strength despite wind, rain, and the elements. The *a‘ali‘i* wood is said to be naturally termite resistant, and the plants can withstand extreme drought, making it clearly a very hardy plant. Our favorite *‘ōlelo no‘eau* reads:

He a‘ali‘i kū makani mai au, ‘a‘ohe makani nāna e kūla‘i.
(I am a wind resisting a‘ali‘i, no gale can push me over).
‘Ōlelo No‘eau #507

Our class has and will continue to be unbending and unyielding to the winds of life and challenges of the demanding medical training beyond medical school. We are rooted firmly in our conviction and passions to our work, and our *aloha* for Hawai‘i and its people runs deep.

To honor the symbolism behind our *kīhei* theme, an *a‘ali‘i* bush will be planted on behalf of our class, coming from the Native nursery of Uncle Bobby Alcain on Molokai. We hope when others see our resilient shrub, they will have strength and perseverance sparked inside of them too.

(Keolamau Yee)

Making *Kīhei*



Mixing the color
to dye the *kīhei*



So intricate



Perfectly spaced



Lining it up



Printing personal
design on dyed area



Oh so perfect



Instructions from Ka'iulani



Working on the class design

Kīhei Ceremony



Kauka pule before starting the ceremony



Explaining class design



Presentation of A'ali'i for Mala



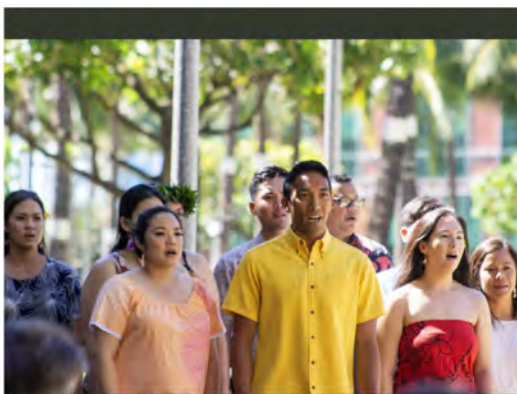
Explaining personal design



NHCOE giving Lei and Honi



Kauka (Mom) to Kauka 'Ōpio (Son)

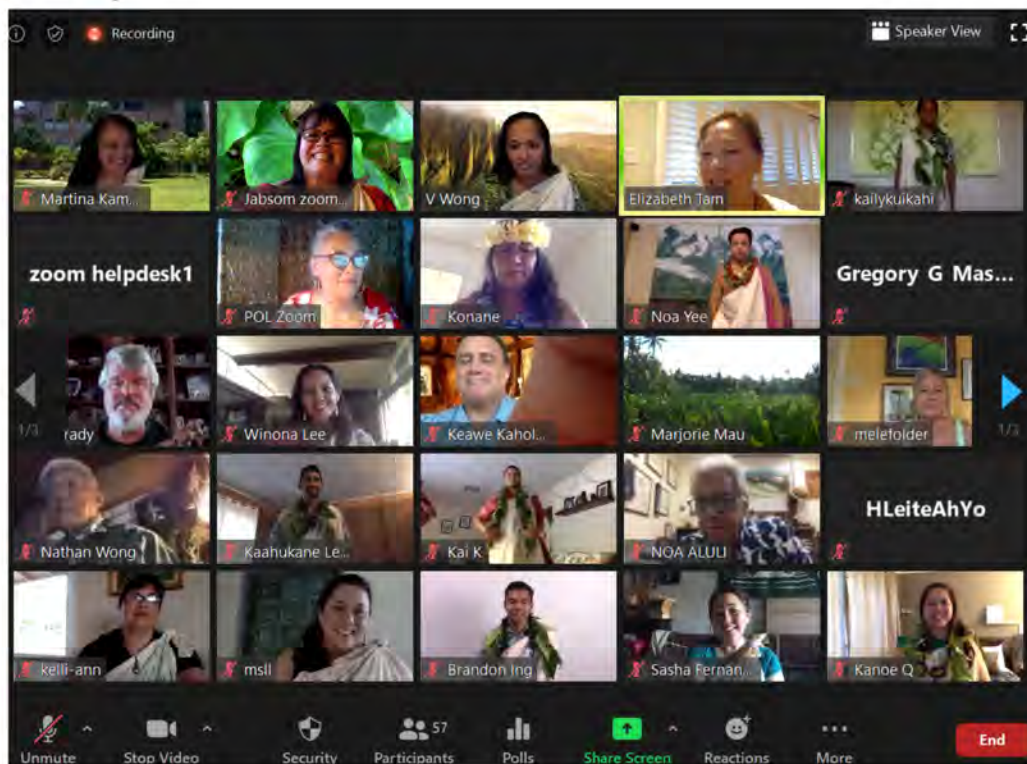


Oli Kahea



We did it!

Class of 2020



(ZOOM: A new way to be together; allowing those from afar to join us ...)

Makani, our class design, is representative of the flowing course of our medical school journey. (Brandon Ing)

That our class theme this year was "wind" meant a lot to me, because my family's origins are in Kohala, which is well known for its wind as described in the famous song, "Maika'i Kamakani o Kohala," "Magnificent are the winds of Kohala." The use of two colors (blue and teal) was meant to represent the dynamic nature of the wind, but also the grounding and cleansing effect it can have. (Keano Royer Pavlosky)

The *kapala* representing the wind represents my medical journey, where it takes me, and the goal to return home. (Ka'ahukane Leite-Ah Yo)

Kauka 'Ōpio

Brandon Ing
Trace Kaimana Kalei

Kaily Kuikahi
Ka'ahukane Leite-Ah Yo
K. Keanokapulani Royer Pavlosky
Britney Kanoelani Quibelan
Noa Yee

Residency

Kaiser Permanente Los Angeles
University of Hawai'i

Kaiser Permanente Oakland
UCLA Med Center
University Mass Med School
University of Hawai'i
University of Southern California

Specialty

Obstetrics/Gynecology
Research/
Family Medicine
Pediatrics
Medicine
Surgery
Family Medicine
Emergency Medicine

Making *Kīhei*



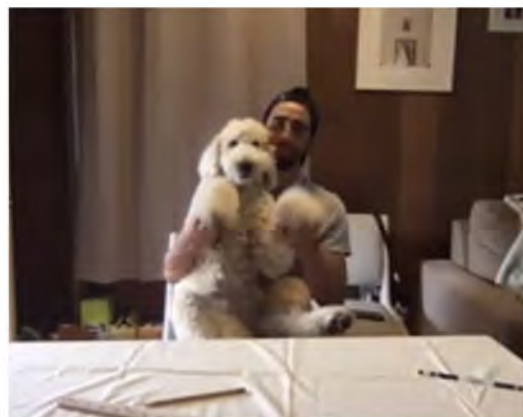
Kumu Kapa Kaʻiulani
giving instructions



"Please explain the meaning of
this *ohe kapala*, Kaʻiulani."



Working diligently



My helper

Making *Kīhei*



Kīhei Ceremony



Kaily



Keano



Ka'ahukane



Noa with sister,
Keolamau (c/o 2019)



Kanoe



Brandon and 'Ohana



Kaimana and
Keiki

Class of 2021



The *he'e*, being the embodiment of Kanaloa (god of the sea and all marine life). The reasons are many: virtually all of us have (or will have had) the opportunity to go to Kaho'olawe as a class. So Kanaloa (or Kaho'olawe) is already a big part of our class identity. The *he'e* is intelligent (which is a trait needed as a physician), able to problem solve and react quickly in ever changing situations, as well as resiliency. *He'e* can regrow their limbs after injury. Much as our class had to navigate both of our clinical years during the COVID-19 pandemic, we all were resilient and thrived in an ever changing world. The three *piko* remind me of *he'e*, their head the negative center space and the radiating lines representing the 8 tentacles of the *he'e*. In addition, the diamond-shaped *'ohe kapala* that we used to make the *piko* design reminds me of the suckers on the *he'e*'s tentacles. Kaho'olawe is the *piko* of Hawai'i, seen as the origin of navigational training for our *kupuna* (and hopefully our *mo'opuna*). (Pono Castanera)

The lesson of the three *piko* taught by my papa (Kekuni Blaisdell): *Piko po'o* (connection to ancestors), *piko waena* (be present) and *piko ma'i* (bright future ahead). (Malia Brennan)

Kauka 'Ōpio

Charles Kawena Akiona
Malia Ailinaekakala Brennan
Max Pono Castanera
Bryce Kaleiokalahaiia Chang
Joshua Kekoa Freitas
Edy Kaleimomi Gomes
Russell Pi'imauna Kackley
Cherisse Lohelani Sen Kawamura
Jerrick Laimana
Kadee-Kalia Tamashiro
Amanda Wasko
Chelsea Yin

Residency

UCLA Med Ctr-CA
University of Washington Affil Hosps
Tacoma Family Med-WA
Mayo Clinic—MN
UC Davis Med Ctr-CA
University of Hawai'i
Adventist Health Ukiah Valley
University of Hawai'i
Kaiser Permanente Hawai'i
UC San Francisco-Fresno
University of Hawai'i
Kaiser Permanente-Oakland-CA

Specialty

Anesthesiology
Surgery
Family Medicine
Neurology
Internal Medicine
Family Medicine
Family Medicine
Family Medicine
Internal Medicine
Surgery
Internal Medicine
Internal Medicine

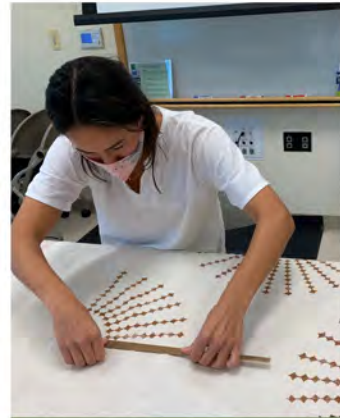
Making *Kīhei*



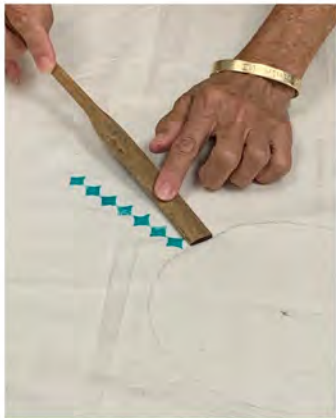
Almost done with
piko design



Which *ohe kapala*
to use?



This is how to do it



Evenly spaced



Color anyone?



Kumu Kapa Kai'iulani
de Silva



Before



After

Kīhei Ceremony



It's



A



Family



Affair



The *Piko*



My *kauka* mentor



Oli Kahea



Kauka Liz Tam as MC

Kīhei Ceremony



Haumana Pule



Adorned with kīhei



Kauka 'Ōpio

Moving Forward

The first 10 years of *kīhei* used designs seen in an *ahupua'a* (the land division from the mountain to the sea), with specific designs created for each class. Values seen in the students in the class were instrumental in conceiving the class design. In addition, each student is able to showcase their own personal story on their *kīhei*. Protocol and ceremony are appropriate for use of the *kauka 'ōpio's kīhei*. It will remind them of their journey, ground them in their heritage, keep close their genealogy and carry forward their *kuleana* because of the path that they have chosen, to care for the *lahui*.

After the first 2 years of making *kīhei*, utilizing mostly the plants on the JABSOM campus, especially the *kukui*, representing enlightenment and the JABSOM Department of Native Hawaiian Health, the designs have been mostly in straight lines utilizing *ohe kapala*, as is typical of *kapa* designs. A piko design was done for class of 2021, again a class of 12, who were able to journey twice to Kahoolawe, and were grounded in their Native Hawaiian heritage. They understood the 3 *piko*, the connection to our ancestors, our family and our offspring, something Dr. Kekuni Blaisdell spoke about at length. It is in making these connections, and in the creation of their *kīhei*, that these future physicians, will take with them all they have learned from their families, mentors, faculty and future colleagues with the 'Ahahui o nā Kauka, to be the *kauka* that they are destined to be. This Kīhei Ceremony is Ahahui's and NHCOE's blessing and recognition of accomplishment of these *kauka 'opio*. This *kīhei* signifies our accepting of this haumana to the rank of *Kauka*, ready for the challenge, accepting the commemoration and all of its responsibilities for the care of our patients, our people.

Summary

It was the work of many to be able to create a *Kīhei* Ceremony for these well deserving individuals who will be serving our *lahui*, and improve the health of all. I have enjoyed working with each and every student in each class to make a *kīhei* that each one can be proud of, and use as needed in his or her future. We were even able to do this during a pandemic, on ZOOM, and have a virtual ceremony as well. It was unfortunate that there was one year when there were no Native Hawaiian graduates at JABSOM. This will not happen again. There are changes taking place to increase the number of Native Hawaiian physicians.

I would like to *mahalo* those who have contributed to the *Kīhei* Ceremony here at the John A. Burns School of Medicine. I will continue to ask for your *kokua* as we produce even more Native Hawaiian physicians at the John A. Burns School of Medicine.

Kīhei Ceremony:

- > Students chant an *oli kahea* (entrance chant) with reply of an *oli pane* (response chant)
- > *Pule* (Opening Prayer)
- > Speakers (JABSOM Dean, President of 'Ahahui o nā Kauka, DNHH Chair, Director of NHCOE, and Keynote)
- > Bestowing of *kīhei* from 'Ahahui o nā Kauka member
- > Presentation of *kukui* leaf *lei* from NHCOE faculty
- > Students explain design of *kīhei*
- > Closing *Pule*
- > *Pa'ina* (a meal to close the ceremony, celebration with friends and 'ohana)

Kīhei Ceremony Oli

Oli Kahea

Ua ola nō 'o Kou I ka ua Wa'ahila

Life comes to the sea of Kou because of the Wa'ahila rain

Hiluhilu ke kai a'o Māmala

The sea of Māmala is beautiful and peaceful

Mālamalama ka lei kukui o Lanihuli

Lanihuli's lei of kukui is radiant

Hulili ka lau I ke Ki'owao

The young leaves are shaking and sparkling with anticipations

Wawalo aku ka leo

The voice resounds through the uplands
Call out to us

Oli Pane

Ki'eki'e Lanihuli,

Lanihuli stands majestically

Linohau I ka ulu lehua

Beautifully decorated in groves of lehua

Ua noe o Konahuanui,

Konahuanui is enveloped with cold mists

Ka 'iu kau I ka hano

Its peak placed in the highest honor

Hanohano Waipuhia,

Well-known is Waipuhia

Ka wai ho'oma'ū I ke oho palai

The "upside-down" waterfall that moistens and cools the ferns

I Laila 'o Māmala

Māmala is in plain view.

Lamalama I ka lei pāpahi

Vivacious and glowing with adornments

Hia'ai ke 'ike aku

Very pleasing to the eye.

He leo kahea e komo mai ē.

Heed the call, a call to enter

Hāku 'ia e 'Ānela Nacapoy Iāua 'o Marcus
Iwane, 4/27/10
Paka 'ia 5/2/10

Mahalo

- Dr. Martina Kamaka, of 'Ahahui o nā Kauka, who was inspired by Ke Kula 'o Samuel Manaiakalani Kamakau's Kīhei Ceremony and gave me the impetus to start a Kīhei Ceremony at JABSOM
- Kumu hula Mehanaokalā Hind for helping me to "create" a Kīhei Ceremony at JABSOM
- Drs. Kehau Kong, Jordan Lee and Marcus Iwane and Class of 2010 for helping to move the Kīhei Ceremony forward at JABSOM
- 'Anela (Nacapoy) Iwane and Leimomi (Sing) Leong who taught the students how to make a *kīhei* in 2010 and 2011
- 'Anela (Nacapoy) Iwane, Marcus Iwane and Dr. Keawe Kaholokula for creating the *oli kahea* and *oli pane* used at each Kīhei Ceremony starting in 2010
- Kumu Kapa Ka'iulani de Silva who taught the students how to make their *kīhei* from 2012 -2021, *kapa* design instruction and helping me with each class design for their *kīhei*
- 'Ahahui o nā Kauka and JABSOM Department of Native Hawaiian Health Native Hawaiian Center of Excellence (NHCOE) who have funded the *kīhei* making and Kīhei Ceremony, and who's members and faculty cloak the *Kauka 'Ōpio* at the Kīhei Ceremony annually
- All of the JABSOM *kauka 'ōpio* who have participated in making *kīhei* & Kīhei Ceremony
- Family, friends, faculty and mentors who attend and stand behind their *kauka 'ōpio*
- Ka Lama Kukui (JABSOM Indigenous Medical Student Interest Group), founded by Drs. Kehau Kong and Marcus Iwane, from the Class of 2010
- The countless volunteers, through the 'Ahahui o nā Kauka, NHCOE and JABSOM
- JABSOM administration, IT and media team
- The many speakers at the Kīhei Ceremony, from JABSOM, 'Ahahui o nā Kauka and NHCOE
- I would especially like to *aloha* Dr. Liz Tam, who was our MC for many years, last speaking at the 2021 Kīhei Ceremony, before her celestial ascension
- Kealoha and Kala Domingo and Ka'iulani Odom, who have prepared *mea 'ai* for the *pa'ina*
- Editing team: Drs. Martina Kamaka and Vanessa Wong, and Winona Lee

Photo credits:

Drs. Dee-Ann Carpenter, Martina Kamaka and Kehau Kong and JABSOM Media Team



NHCOE
Native Hawaiian Center of Excellence



