

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 ‘Ei‘eli kūlana o ‘Āina ‘ike
 Profound is the nature of ‘Āina ‘ike.
 (refers to a person respected for the depth of his knowledge)

Mo'okilohau (Story)

JABSON Kihel Ceremony

"In those years, 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 cleared as having attained a different level of nobility. This achievement was commemorated through the rite of mo'okilohau. This rite was a ceremony conducted indoors at a site of passage, showing the readiness of the child to undertake the responsibilities of maturity as a Hawaiian..." from the book "O Hanaia Kanihikaia Kanihikaia.

Years ago, Mr. Hanaia Kanihikaia introduced the idea of a Kihel ceremony to Whānau o te Hauke Pūhake-Hāwāiki Pūhake's *Ākōwhiri* and *Ākōwhiri* after having seen them done at his children's school. The suggestion giving a needed recognition to those Native Hawaiian students who are honest to graduate from traditional school. A Kihel was chosen to symbolize the rite of passage of the *hāwāiki* (student to *hāwāiki*) as they go on to the next stage of maturing, known as *mo'okilohau*. It is a Native Hawaiian custom of publicizing of responsibility, from his or her path to graduation which can be used in ceremony and protocol. This Kihel, made by each student, will be part of his or her story, Native Hawaiian beliefs and the journey.

The John A. Burns School of Education (JABSON) is particularly proud that in 2004, it became the nation's first accredited institution with a child development department dedicated to the health of an indigenous people of the U.S. – Native Hawaiians. About 20% of Hawaii's residents are Native Hawaiians, the Hawaiian population makes up only about 4.3% of Hawaii's total population.

In 2010, 12 Native Hawaiians were to graduate this was almost double the number of Native Hawaiians that had typically graduated from JABSON in many years. It was time to have a Kihel Ceremony to honor this group. With the help of a few students in that class, we were able to make it happen. Mauna welcomed his young girl (his new wife), Kanihikaia welcomed with the *hāwāiki* to develop the *hāwāiki* were to be used during the ceremony. Hanaia and Kanihikaia with a Native Hawaiian Song, taught the class how to make Kihel and brought an *oia* (native Hawaiian name) used to create the *hāwāiki* for the *hāwāiki* to use. Students rolled their *hāwāiki* and observed the *hāwāiki*.

of the administration to make *kihei* that could be used not only in the Kihei Ceremony, but also convocation and graduation. It was at this time, that other schools, especially Hawai'i inuiākea, were also making and using *kihei* at graduation. Kumu Mehana Hind was consulted to develop the protocol for the Kihei 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 *kihei* and the Kihei Ceremony. This first Kihei Ceremony was held at Kamakakūokalani Center for Hawaiian Studies at the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa. Thereafter, the Kihei Ceremonies have been held at JABSOM, in the auditorium or the *malā* (garden). As of 2012, Kanoë-Lehua de Silva's mother, Kumu Kapa Ka'iulani de Silva has been helping each class with the making of their *kihei*.

A unique annual event, the Kihei 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 *kihei*. It is custom for the *kauka 'ōpio* to make his/her own *kihei*. Each *kihei* 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 *kihei* symbolizes the *kuleana* (responsibility) the new graduate will have as a future Native Hawaiian physician.

Days before graduation, the Kihei Ceremony starts with the *kauka 'ōpio* performing the *oli kahea*, answered by a *kauka* with an *oli pane*. After a *pule* (prayer), the Kihei 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, *kihei* 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 *kihei* design, representing their journey to medicine. The *kauka 'ōpio* are blessed to have family and friends join them in this auspicious celebration. *Mee 'ai* (food) is shared after the ceremony.

Year	Design of Kīhei	# Native Hawaiian Students	Non-Hawaiians who made kīhei
2010	Kukui & 'Ōhia Lehua (NH Medicine Plants)	12	2
2011	Kukui/Lau (NH Medicine Plants)	6	0
2012	Maile (lei plant for important occasions) dyed kīhei	5	1
2013	--	0	0
2014	Ua (rain)	5	0
2015	Kaula (lightning)	6	0
2016	Kūle 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'eifī 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

Kihei 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
Keala Richardson
Joshua Santos

Residency

University of Hawai'i
Tripler Army Medical Center
University Arizona Afti 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

Final Exam - Class of 2010

We as a class chose to donate our lives with love and help. The Jesus lived in our class is significant, that it is a symbol of enlightenment, especially for us as we continue on this new journey in our lives. The desire for enlightening, one of which includes, *Jesus' Baptism*. Jesus' baptism from a baptism to Jesus, we find in the Bible to provide insight and guidance. Our motivation for our class reflects how far we've journeyed as a class to this transitional point marking the new phase of our lives. We believe results from our service garden to KOS, and our service journey with Jesus. The top of our light symbolizes our lives and their very beginnings with existence. The book up at the top is a reflection of looking our future in this new journey. The book is also a symbol of our future dreams for Jesus' light, enlightening our lives and our group that allows us to give back to the community by participating in health awareness.

A hand-drawn idea became the also-prosperous solution as a contrast to the trend in the printing of our time. The design chosen for our site depicts the "old" design as a native plant cherished for its beauty, strength and longevity. The "new" design is a customer reminder that we are changing fast and forward. No matter where we go from here or where we decide to go, the one thing that we will always strive to maintain is our love for Hawaii. One of the physical characteristics of the island of Hawaii is change and that we grow from the tree (low). No matter what circumstances arise or how turbulent, the way first thing to please ourselves with is love. That, the way's advantage of Hawaii being and which other destination. Moreover, continue to be more challenging, including suffering from the highest percentage of chronic disease, the diabetes, hypertension and heart disease. We all share a responsibility in medicine and now have the opportunity to be in the part in the cycle of health for Hawaii's future and ourselves.

Our library is a part of our corporate culture and it will serve as a constant reminder of our business and community involvement. We hope to embody the values and special properties of both the Indian and Irish tribes in our lives.

Making *Kīhei*



Jordan



Keola and
wife, Jessica



Marcus



Kehau



Leilani and 'Ānela
taught class how to make kīhei



Christian



Kuku'i



Keuka 'Ōpio

Kihei Ceremony



Kauka 'Ōpio



with Ahahui 'o na Kauka

Convocation



Weeping Kihei



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.

<i>Kauka 'Ōpio</i>	<i>Residency</i>	<i>Specialty</i>
Kaumaka Calhoun	University of California Davis	Internal Medicine
Spring K. Golden	University of Hawai'i	Transitional
	Oregon Health and Science University	Dermatology
Erin Kalua	University of Hawai'i	Family Medicine
Seron Tokumura	University of Colorado	Surgery – Prolim
David Yamane	Brigham and Women's Hospital	Emergency Medicine
Noah K. Yuen	University of California Davis	Surgery

Making *Kihei*



Spring



Noah



Erin



Seran



Kaumaka



David



Just starting



Almost done

Kihei Ceremony



Oh Kahele



Oh Pane



Awaiting their Kihei



Celebrating Erin



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

Kīhei presented to Dean Jerris Hedges



The University of Hawai'i Department of Native Hawaiian Health presented a special kīhei at 2011 Kīhei 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 Kīhei Ceremony since inception.

The kīhei presented to Dean Hedges is one worn by the faculty in the Department of Native Hawaiian Health, adorned by kuku, 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 *kihei* with images of *maile*, to symbolize the entwining of various cultures and paths. They used traditional *ohi kapala*, thanks to Kanohe-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 *kihei* represents health and healing, nature and nurture.

Kauka 'Ōpio

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

Bianca K. Chun
Kanohe-Lehua E. de Silva
Melanie Payanai
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

Kihei Ceremony



Kaula 'Ōpio, Ka papa 2012



Hawai'i Alpha

Remembering Taylor J.K. Choy, MD



Taylor making his Kihel



Leah and Taylor at their Kihel Ceremony



Taylor Choy with his parents following the traditional Kihel Ceremony

Taylor J.K. Choy, MD, a 2012 graduate of the John A. Burns School of Medicine (JABSM) 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'ulani de Silva



Ohe Kapala for Making *Kīhei*

Kīhei Ceremony



Kīhei Ceremony



Ken



Ku'ulei



Akalea



Before



After

Class of 2015



Ula, 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



Kalmana



Anne



Choosing the layout



All done

Making *Kīhei*



Working with
Kumu Kapa Ka'ulani de Silva



Letting



The Point



Dry

Kīhei Ceremony



Kauka 'Ōpio



With Dean Hedges and
Dr. Kekuni Blaisdell



Kaimana relieving 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 nū'eau #1913 "Kūlia i ka nū'u" – Strive to reach the summit.

Kaula 'Ōpio

Lauren Hu

Kama Marb

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



Kama



Lauren



Randi



Kama



Working Together



With Kumu Kapa Ka'ulani de Silva

Kīhei Ceremony



Mauna (Mountain)



Randi



Kama



Lauren



Kauka 'Ōpio

Kihei presented to Dr. Satoru Izutsu



Presenting



Dr. Izutsu



Kihei

The University of Hawai'i Department of Native Hawaiian Health presented a special kihei at the 2016 Kihei Ceremony in recognition of his long service to the school and the students of the John A. Burns 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 Kihei 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.

Kaaka '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



'Ōhana



Dr. Nate Wong - Pule



Kaua'i 'Ōpio

Kīhei Ceremony



Awaiting their kīhei



Receiving kīhei



Receiving, kuku'ia'i



Ho'omaike'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 Kanaguruku

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*



Quinn



Monika



Nohea



Leimomi



David



Nina



Pick a color



Finished

Kīhei Ceremony



Honi



Honi



Honi



Explaining meaning
of Kīhei



NHCOE Faculty



‘Whāhau Kāhaka



Preparing



The table

Kīhei Ceremony



Kauka 'Ōpio



Kauka 'Ōpio



'Ōhane



Kauka 'Ōpio



DNHH Faculty & Dean Hedges



Kauka - 'Aiehuni & JABSOM Faculty

Class of 2019



Kauka 'Ōpio

Ailei Apana
Megan Araujo
Michael Bengoli
Marci Chock
Jayden Galangam
Keahi Horowitz
Andrew Kinimaka
Jennifer Lyman
Ashley Morisako
Kathryn Roberts
Leino'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* kō makani mai au, 'a'ohē makani nāna e kōka'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 Alcan 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'ulani



Working on the class design

Kīhei Ceremony



Kauka pule before starting the ceremony



Explaining class design



Presentation of A'āpō for Māhā



Explaining personal design



NHCOE giving Lei and Hōhō



Kauka (Mom) to Kauka 'Ōpio (Son)

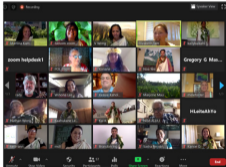


Oli Kaheha



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 Kaimama Kalei

Residency

Kaiser Permanente Los Angeles
University of Hawai'i

Specialty

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

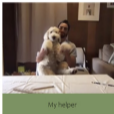
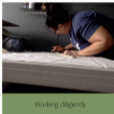
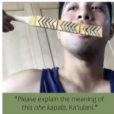
Kaili Kuikahi

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

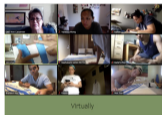
Kaiser Permanente Oakland

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

Making *Kīhei*



Making *Kīhei*



Kīhei Ceremony



Kaili



Keano



Karahukane



Noa with sister,
Keolamau (c/o 2019)



Kanoe



Brandon and 'Ohana



Keimana 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 Hawaii, 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 mau'i* (bright future ahead). (Malia Brennan)

Kauka 'Ōpio

Charles Kawena Akiona
Malia Ailinaloaakala Brennan
Max Pono Castanera
Bryce Kaleikalahoua Chang
Joshua Kekoa Freitas
Edy Kaleimponi Gomes
Russell P'imauna Kackley
Cherise Lohelani Sen Kawamuna
Jerrick Laimana
Kadee-Kalia Tamashiro
Arumenda Wasko
Chelsea Yin

Residency

UCLA Med Ctr-CA
University of Washington AFH 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 designs



Which *ohe kapala*
to use?



This is how to do it



Evenly spaced



Color anyone?



Rumu Kapa Kafiulani
de Silva



Before



After

Kīhei Ceremony



It's



A



Family



Affair



The Piko



My kauka mentor



Oh Kāhea



Kauka Liz Tam as MC

Kīhei Ceremony



Raumana Pule



Adorned with kīhei



Kauka 'Ōpio

Moving Forward

The first 10 years of *kihei* 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 *kihei*. Protocol and ceremony are appropriate for use of the *kauka 'ōpio's kihei*. 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 *kihei*, 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 *kihei*, 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 *Kihei Ceremony* is *Ahahui's* and *NHCOE's* blessing and recognition of accomplishment of these *kauka 'ōpio*. This *kihei* 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 Kihei 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 *kihei* 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 Kihei 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.

Kihei 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, DNIH Chair, Director of NHCOE, and Keynote)
- > Bestowing of *kihei* from 'Ahahui o nā Kauka member
- > Presentation of *kukui* leaf *lei* from NHCOE faculty
- > Students explain design of *kihei*
- > Closing *Pule*
- > *Pa'ina* (a meal to close the ceremony, celebration with friends and 'ohana)

Kīhei Ceremony Oli

Oli Kahua

Ua ola nū 'o Kou i ka ua Wa'ahila

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

Hūhūhū 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

Hu'ilī ka lau i ke Kī'owao

The young leaves are shaking and sparkling with anticipations

Wawalo aku ka leo

The voice resounds through the uplands
Call out to us

E hea mai ka leo ē

Oli Pane

Ki'aki'aki Lanihuli,

Lanihuli stands majestically

Lino'hau i ka ulu lehua

Beautifully decorated in groves of lehua

Ua noe o Konahuanui,

Konahuanui is enveloped with cold mists

Ke 'ū kau i ka hano

Its peak placed in the highest honor

Hano'hano Waipuhia,

Well-known is Waipuhia

Ke wai ho'oma'i 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 pūpahi

Vivacious and glowing with adornments

Hā'ai ke 'ike aku

Very pleasing to the eye.

He leo kahua e komo mai ē.

Heed the call, a call to enter

Haku 'ia e 'Ānela Nacapoy i lula 'o Marcus
Iwama, 4/27/10
Puka 'ia 5/12/10

Mahalo

- Dr. Martina Kamaka, of 'Ahahui o nā Kauka, who was inspired by Ke Kula 'o Samuel Maialekalani Kamakau's Kihel Ceremony and gave me the impetus to start a Kihel Ceremony at JABSOM
- Kumu hula Mehanaokaia Hind for helping me to "create" a Kihel Ceremony at JABSOM
- Drs. Kehau Kong, Jordan Lee and Marcus Iwane and Class of 2010 for helping to move the Kihel Ceremony forward at JABSOM
- 'Anela (Nacapoy) Iwane and Leimomi (Sing) Leong who taught the students how to make a kihel in 2010 and 2011
- 'Anela (Nacapoy) Iwane, Marcus Iwane and Dr. Keawe Kaholokula for creating the oil kahua and oil pane used at each Kihel Ceremony starting in 2010
- Kumu Kapa Ka'iulani de Silva who taught the students how to make their kihel from 2012 -2021, kapa design instruction and helping me with each class design for their kihel
- 'Ahahui o nā Kauka and JABSOM Department of Native Hawaiian Health Native Hawaiian Center of Excellence (NHCOE) who have funded the kihel making and Kihel Ceremony, and who's members and faculty cloak the Kauka 'Ōpio at the Kihel Ceremony annually
- All of the JABSOM kauka 'Ōpio who have participated in making kihel & Kihel 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 Kihel 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 Kihel 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



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This project is supported by the Hawai'i State Legislature and by the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) under grant #D34HP16044-04-02. This information or content and conclusions are those of the author and should not be construed as the official position or policy of, nor should any endorsements be inferred by HRSA, HHS or the U.S. Government.

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