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**Bidding Starts Thursday, Aug. 14 for Bishop Museum's
Annual Online Auction, E Ulu A Pa'a**

Honolulu, Hawai'i — [Bishop Museum](https://bishopmuseum.org), the State of Hawai'i Museum of Natural and Cultural History, will once again hold its popular online auction, [E Ulu a Pa'a](https://bishopmuseum.org/euluapa). Bids will start at 9 a.m. HST Thursday, Aug. 14, 2025 and run until 9 p.m. HST Sunday, Aug. 24, 2025. Shoppers can register now and preview the more than 90 one-of-a-kind treasures and exclusive Bishop Museum Experiences available at bishopmuseum.cbo.io.

The 11-day event supports the mission, staff, and work at Bishop Museum.

"Our Bishop Museum 'Ohana expresses our deep appreciation and mahalo for the community's continued support," shared Janet Bullard, Bishop Museum vice president of institutional advancement and marketing communications, and acting director of government relations. "Donations raise vital funds to ensure Bishop Museum can continue to protect, preserve, and perpetuate the rich cultural and natural heritage of our Islands and the Pacific for generations to come."

Select items and experiences up for bid include:

19" Three-Strand Kahelelani Ni'ihau Shell Lei

Shell lei have been a part of Hawaiian culture for centuries. There are records of shell lei in Captain Cook's journals from his arrival in Hawai'i in 1778. The residents of Ni'ihau perfected this craft, likely due to the lack of flowers that would grow in the arid climate, and the island's abundance of seashells that would wash up on its shores. This lei features three strands of vibrantly-colored kahelelani shells.

"808 Playahz" by Kaelyn Okuhata

This 18" x 24" print comes in a 22" x 28" matted frame. It features local species drawn in the style of traditional Japanese hanafuda playing cards.

Artist Kaelyn Okuhata, Bishop Museum's director of corporate relationships and partnerships, was born and raised in Pukalani, Maui, and now resides on O'ahu. She loves drawing and painting in primarily acrylic

medium. As a Gosei, she utilizes motifs and themes from her upbringing in various community spaces as inspiration.

Bishop Museum Experience: Private Behind-the-Scenes Malacology Tour

Bishop Museum has one of the most comprehensive collection of Pacific Island land snails in the world. The approximately 25,000 islands of the Pacific Ocean harbor more than 6,000 land snail species, most of which are only found on a single island or archipelago.

Molluscs, particularly Pacific island land snails, have the highest recorded extinction rate of any major animal taxonomic group, making the Museum's collection all the more important. The 6 million+ specimen collection includes representatives of many extinct, endangered, and threatened species and more than 300 undescribed species.

Lūhe'e by Maunalani Design Group

A lūhe'e is an octopus lure. The stone helps the lure to sink below the water's surface, and the cowry shell attracts the octopus to the lure. The octopus would either be caught by the lure's hook, or simply scooped up by the fisherman. Octopuses were caught for both food and sport.

This lūhe'e is handmade by Keith Maile of the Maunalani Design Group. He uses a variety of media in his working, including bone, shell, wood, stone, and native fibers, along with other natural materials.

Custom Tenor 'Ukulele with Case by Mike Chock

Tenor 'ukulele are about five inches longer than the more common soprano 'ukulele. Their increased size produces a fuller sound and allows players to hit more notes in each scale. Because of this, many popular artists prefer tenor 'ukulele, including Israel Kamakawiwo'ole, Jake Shimabukuro, Roman de Peralta from Kolohe Kai, and Lina Robins-Tamure from 'Uhe'uhene.

This custom papaya tenor 'ukulele has an 17.75" scale length and features back and sides made from Mauna Loa koa. All of its features are handmade by Michael "Mike" Chock.

Mike Chock is the founder of the Ukulele Guild of Hawaii and co-creator of the "Hana Lima 'Ia 'Ukulele Construction Handbook." He founded the Hana Lima 'Ia school for teaching 'ukulele making in 1994, educating future generations on how to create Hawai'i's official state instrument.

"Pele's Grace" Handmade Art Quilt (for hanging)

Measuring approximately 3' wide by 4' tall, "Pele's Grace" is inspired by the lava fields and new growth in Hawai'i Volcanoes National Park.

Elizabeth Schowalter is Bronx born, but has been Hawai'i-rooted for almost 30 years. Most of her artistic inspiration comes from her spiritually fulfilling surroundings — the abundance of the 'āina, the riches of the kai, and the simple beauty of kanaka life. She hopes that her hand-stitched art quilts will carry the aloha she feels for her home into yours,

Bishop Museum Experience: Lava Pour Pizza Party

Enjoy a private evening at Bishop Museum with your own Lava Pour Pizza Party! You and up to 19 guests will meet at the Hot Spot to learn about the formation of the Hawaiian Islands and Hawai'i's volcanoes in our signature volcano show, and see real lava poured out of our 2,000-degree furnace! Each guest will receive a keepsake lava glass shard. Gallery time in the Science Adventure Center and a pizza dinner are included.

Pāpale Lauhala by Pamela Lipscomb

Pāpale lauhala were worn by paniolo cowboys prior to the mid-1880s, making it an almost exclusively male fashion piece until the 1900s. Today, pāpale are worn by men and women in casual spaces as well as formal celebrations.

This is a “cup and saucer” style pāpale lauhala. It fits a head size of 23” and has a brim width of 5”, and comes with a storage bag made of cotton fabric by Tori Richard.

Kumu Pamela Lipscomb learned to weave lauhala from her kumu, Lily Sugahara, of Hilo. This pāpale is made with lauhala from Kona, Hawai‘i, and the adornment is made with lauhala and loulu from O‘ahu.

Lei Hulu Kamoe by Kahailimanu

This lei hulu kamoe — a feather lei made in a flat-lay style — is made of natural white goose with a paukū center. The center feathers that make up the paukū are all ring neck pheasant feathers: almond, gold sides, blue almond, and female almond. The lei is 24” long with a black ribbon closure.

A haili is a sudden remembrance or a fond memory of a loved one; it can also be a premonition or a dream. Kahailimanu is lei maker Lehuanani Chock’s dream to carry the legacy of Hawaiian featherwork into the future. Inspired by her beloved Grams, whose vision it was that this hana no‘eau continue, Kahailimanu seeks to create lei hulu of the highest quality while sharing knowledge with others along the way.

Bishop Museum Experience: Private Screening of “Wayfinders” with Billy Richards and Ka‘iulani Murphy in the J. Watumull Planetarium

Hokule‘a Captain Billy Richards and Navigator Ka‘iulani Murphy will guide you and your guests through learning techniques that they and other Polynesian Voyaging Society (PVS) wayfinders use to voyage around the Pacific and the world. Imagine yourself aboard a canoe, guided by starlight, in the very planetarium where Nainoa Thompson first trained in the late ‘70s and many other PVS navigators and crews have prepared for their journeys since. Duration: 45 mins.

For more information, and to register to bid and view the auction items, please visit bishopmuseum.cbo.io.

News media: Images of the above items and Bishop Museum Experiences can be found [here](#).

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About Bernice Pauahi Bishop Museum, the State of Hawai‘i Museum of Natural and Cultural History:

Bernice Pauahi Bishop Museum’s mission is to inspire our community and visitors through the exploration, celebration, and perpetuation of the extraordinary history, culture, and environment of Hawai‘i and the Pacific. The Museum was founded in 1889 by Charles Reed Bishop in memory of his wife Bernice Pauahi Bishop, a royal descendant of King Kamehameha I. Today, the Museum thrives as an educational center for the community and is widely regarded as the world’s premier institution for Hawaiian and Pacific content.

Bishop Museum’s vast collections of more than 25 million objects and specimens represent nine disciplines and include more than 22 million biological specimens, over 2 million cultural objects, 115,000 historical publications, and 1 million photographs, films, works of art, audio recordings, and manuscripts. These collections tell the stories of the cultures and biodiversity of Hawai‘i and the Pacific as well as the proud legacy of scholarly research spanning 130 years.

Bishop Museum proudly serves more than 200,000 visitors each year, including 20,000 children on school visits.

To learn more about the Museum's research, collections, exhibits, and programs, visit BishopMuseum.org, follow @BishopMuseum on [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#), visit Bishop Museum's [YouTube](#) channel, or call (808) 847-3511. Bishop Museum is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization.

Bishop Museum is proud to be an Equal Employment Opportunity and Affirmative Action Employer, and welcomes applicants from the military, veterans, and those with disabilities. Learn about careers at Bishop Museum at BishopMuseum.org/Careers and on its [LinkedIn](#) page.

[Bishop Museum Press](#) is Hawai'i's oldest book publisher and one of the first scholarly publishers in the Western Hemisphere, and has published over 1,200 titles and distributed over 1 million books in 72 countries worldwide.

Past news releases can be viewed and downloaded at BishopMuseum.org/NewsRoom.