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MEDIA CONTACT:

Stryker Weiner & Yokota Public Relations, Inc.
Lance Aquino
Ph.: (808) 398-0657
lance@strykerweiner.com

**Bishop Museum Celebrates Lā Ho‘iho‘i Ea
With Welo Ka Hae Hawai‘i Event**

Honolulu, Hawai‘i — [Bernice Pauahi Bishop Museum](#), the State of Hawai‘i Museum of Natural and Cultural History, will celebrate Lā Ho‘iho‘i Ea, Sovereignty Restoration Day, with its Welo Ka Hae Hawai‘i event on Wednesday, July 31, 2024. The event will feature ka ‘u‘u ‘ana i ka Hae Hawai‘i i luna (raising the Hawaiian Flag), mele (music), educational displays, and activities.

Also during the event, special EA Activations will be presented by Kanaka community leaders sharing perspectives on independence. These presentations are inspired by select mea kupuna (ancestral items) showcased in Bishop Museum’s original exhibition, *Ka ‘Ula Wena: Oceanic Red*, and inside Hawaiian Hall.

“Lā Ho‘iho‘i Ea is a beloved celebration for many Bishop Museum staff, and we’re pleased to host this annual event at the Museum,” said Taylour Chang, Bishop Museum director of public programs and community events. “Our goal is to continue presenting the Museum as a place where gatherings such as this can be had, and to pay tribute to the legacy of our kūpuna and our ali‘i. In this way, we honor our living culture.”

Established on July 31, 1843 by King Kamehameha III, Lā Ho‘iho‘i Ea marks the return of political power to the Hawaiian Kingdom after the British unlawfully seized control earlier that year. Throughout the 19th century, Lā Ho‘iho‘i Ea was celebrated annually with great pride. In 2022, the State of Hawai‘i designated July 31 as a special day of observance.

“In our collections, we have source materials that represent what Hawai‘i’s ali‘i and lāhui stood for in their lifetimes,” shared Chang. “It is our responsibility to honor and celebrate the lives and work of our ali‘i and the people of the Hawaiian Kingdom through these observances.”

The Museum expresses its appreciation to Kamehameha Schools Kaiāulu for their generous support of this program, as well as community partners Lā Ho‘iho‘i Ea, Kanaeokana, and Ka Papa Lo‘i ‘o Kānewai.

The Museum is looking forward to celebrating Lā Kū‘oko‘a, the Independence Day of the Hawaiian Kingdom, in the fall. Information on this and other Bishop Museum events can be found at BishopMuseum.org/Events.

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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](https://www.bishopmuseum.org), follow @BishopMuseum on [Twitter](#) and [Instagram](#), become a fan of Bishop Museum on [Facebook](#), 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](https://www.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](https://www.bishopmuseum.org/NewsRoom).