



BISHOP MUSEUM

Dec. 3, 2020

MEDIA CONTACTS:

Stryker Weiner & Yokota Public Relations, Inc.

Lance Aquino

Ph.: (808) 398-0657

lance@strykerweiner.com

**Bishop Museum Presents, “Kaula Piko: Le‘a I Ke Kani Concert
Featuring the Legendary Ledward Kaapana and Very Special Guests”**
*The free concert will broadcast live on ‘Ōlelo channel 53 and on social media
to celebrate the holidays*

Honolulu, Hawai‘i – In the spirit of the holidays, Bernice Pauahi Bishop Museum and Kealakai Center for Pacific Strings will present “Kaula Piko: Le‘a I Ke Kani Concert, Featuring the Legendary Ledward Kaapana and Very Special Guests” Alan Akaka, Pōmaika‘i and Mālie Lyman, Douglas Po‘olua Tolentino, Bobby Moderow Jr, Kamuela and Ka‘ihi Kimokeo, Kenneth Makuakāne, Ocean Kaowili, and Halehaku Seabury. This free concert based on the museum’s exhibit, *Kaula Piko: The Source of Strings*, features the award-winning artists taking the audience on a musical journey through time. The concert will bring to life stories from the exhibit, illuminating Hawai‘i’s pivotal contributions and long-running legacy of excellence, innovation, and global influence in the modern musical arts. The concert will be broadcast and livestreamed from the museum’s historic Hawaiian Hall. The community can tune into the concert broadcast on Dec. 12, 2020 from 7-9 p.m. on ‘Ōlelo Community Media channel 53, or watch a livestream of the show on Bishop Museum’s and ‘Ōlelo’s Facebook accounts (Facebook.com/BishopMuseum, Facebook.com/OleloCommunity).

The concert will also include special presentation on Hawai‘i’s own ‘ūkēkē by Mahi La Pierre and Hui ‘Ūkēkē A‘o, and a sharing of the ‘Ipu Heke by Marques Hanalei Marzan.

“We’re honored to partner with some of our island’s most gifted musical artists for this holiday concert. We hope, with their performances and content from our exhibit, to bring some of the magic and history of live Hawaiian music into families’ homes this season,” said Melanie Ide, president and CEO of Bishop Museum.

“The *Kaula Piko* exhibition has endeavored to illuminate a long-running legacy of Hawaiian music and musicians, a legacy that today spans many centuries, oceans, and continents,” said Kilin Reece, concert co-producer, exhibit co-curator, and president of the Kealakai Center for Pacific Strings. “The most famous stringed instruments in the world trace their origins to this Hawaiian lineage, and today form a common bond shared between many generations of practitioners in the Hawaiian musical arts. The ‘Le‘a I Ke Kani Concert’ brings the stories of *Kaula Piko* to life in live performance, and gives our most legendary and award-winning artists a chance to share their stories of song and string with you. We invite you to join us for a musical journey to the Source of Strings!” said Reece.

“‘Ōlelo is honored to be able bring this very special concert live to the community illuminating Hawai‘i’s contributions, long-running legacy, and global influence in the world of musical arts,” said Sanford Inouye, President and CEO, ‘Ōlelo Community Media.

“Kaula Piko: Le‘a I Ke Kani” draws inspiration from Bishop Museum’s Kaula Piko exhibit, which explores the lineage of Hawai‘i’s lasting contributions to world music, in particular through the pioneering influence of Hawaiian musicians in both performance styles and the actual design and construction of stringed instruments, showing how they ultimately shaped the soundscape of today’s popular music. The concert will showcase key elements of Hawaiian music presented by leading practitioners carrying on their family traditions. With detailed insights into the Hawaiian born innovations that have defined the sound and shape of modern music, from the acoustic Kī Hō‘alu (Slack Key) to the electric Kīkā Kila (Steel Guitar), from the ‘ukēkē to the ‘ukulele.

Between each performance, historical background and select highlights from the *Kaula Piko* exhibit will be presented by Mr. Reece and Bishop Museum’s own historian, DeSoto Brown. Interspersed with musicians’ stories of song and strings will be detailed historical insights into the evolution and Hawaiian origins of the world’s most iconic stringed instruments that have shaped the modern musical soundscape.

The concert will be headlined by legendary slack key guitar player Ledward Kaapana. In addition to his guitar mastery, Kaapana is known for his extraordinary baritone and leo ki‘eki‘e (falsetto) singing.

“Kaula Piko: Le‘a I Ke Kani Concert, Featuring the Legendary Ledward Kaapana and Special Guests,” is a joint production of Bishop Museum and Kealakai Center for Pacific Strings, and is generously supported by Servco Pacific Inc. and Morgan Stanley.

To watch the “Kaula Piko: Le‘a I Ke Kani Concert,” tune into ‘Ōlelo Community Media on channel 53, or on Bishop Museum’s and ‘Ōlelo’s Facebook pages from 7-9 p.m. on Dec. 12, 2020. For more information, visit www.BishopMuseum.org/KaulaPiko.

###

About Bernice Pauahi Bishop Museum:

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. Its vast collections of more than 25 million objects and specimens represent nine disciplines, and include more than 22 million biological specimens, over two million cultural objects, 115,000 historical publications, and one 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 www.bishopmuseum.org, follow @BishopMuseum on Twitter and Instagram, become a fan of Bishop Museum on Facebook, visit Bishop Museum's YouTube channel at youtube.com/user/BishopMuseum, or call (808) 847-3511. Bishop Museum is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization.