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**Bishop Museum to Open New Exhibit in Science Adventure Center:
*Lele o Nā Manu: The Splendor and Loss of Hawai‘i’s Birds***

Opening during the Museum After Hours event, the exhibit coincides with Makahiki o Nā Manu Nahele, the Year of the Forest Birds, celebrating and raising awareness around Hawai‘i’s Native forest birds.

Honolulu, Hawai‘i — [Bernice Pauahi Bishop Museum](#), the State of Hawai‘i Museum of Natural and Cultural History, will open a new exhibit in its Richard T. Mamiya Science Adventure Center: *Lele o Nā Manu: The Splendor and Loss of Hawai‘i’s Birds* opens during the [Museum After Hours event](#) on Friday night, July 12, 2024. The exhibit coincides with Makahiki o Nā Manu Nahele, the Year of the Forest Birds, a campaign to celebrate and raise awareness around Hawai‘i’s Native forest birds.

“Lele o Nā Manu: The Splendor and Loss of Hawai‘i’s Birds is an exploration of the remarkable avian fauna that evolved over millions of years in Hawai‘i, the most isolated chain of islands in the world,” said Molly Hagemann, Bishop Museum Vertebrate Zoology collection manager. “The exhibit features 47 exquisite carvings depicting endemic Hawaiian manu nahele (forest birds) by master craftsman Haruo Uchiyama, who spent several weeks examining specimens in Bishop Museum’s collections to ensure the carvings were as accurate as possible.”

Mr. Uchiyama’s complete set of historically-known Hawaiian honeycreepers will be displayed with an original mural painted by local artist Patrick Ching. The exhibit will also include a mural depicting prehistoric Kīpahulu Valley (Maui) painted by Dr. Julian Hume; fossils of extinct bird species; and an interactive game that challenges visitors’ knowledge of Native and nonnative animals.

“Mr. Uchiyama contacted me in 2020 and told me about his passion for Hawai‘i’s birds, and his dream of carving an exhibit of birds for Bishop Museum,” said artist Patrick Ching. “He asked if I would paint the background for the exhibit when it happens.”

“‘Hidden Valley 2024’ portrays a classic Hawaiian forest with waterfalls, valley walls, a stream and several plants that are used for food and habitat by Native birds. The mural is a backdrop for the Uchiyama carved honeycreepers and is intended to be represent an ideal setting for a wide variety of Hawaiian birds,” said Ching.

During the Museum After Hours event on Friday night, July 12, guests can explore the new exhibit, meet local organizations that work to protect our Native birds, enjoy activity booths, as well as take part in moderated panel discussions with the artists and researchers that brought *Lele o Nā Manu* to life. Panelists include master carver Haruo Uchiyama; mural artists Patrick Ching and Julian Hume; and exhibit co-curators Molly Hagemann, Smithsonian's National Zoo and Conservation Biology Institute's Rob Fleischer, and Smithsonian National Museum of Natural History's Helen James.

A full line-up of the event can be found on the Museum's website, BishopMuseum.org. Admission is \$10 pre-sale online, and \$15 at the door.

Bishop Museum expresses its appreciation for its partners and sponsors: the Smithsonian's National Zoo and Conservation Biology Institute, and the Asian Pacific American Initiatives Pool, administered by The Smithsonian Asian Pacific American Center.

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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 [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 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.

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