



BISHOP MUSEUM

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MEDIA CONTACTS:

Stryker Weiner & Yokota Public Relations, Inc.

Lance Aquino

Ph.: (808) 523-8802, ext. 225

lance@strykerweiner.com

Bishop Museum to Reopen and Launch New Outdoor Museum Experiences

Bishop Museum opens to members on June 19; general public on June 26

Honolulu, Hawai‘i – Following the latest mandates from City and State officials, Bernice Pauahi Bishop Museum will soon be reopening to the community. As a special mahalo, the museum will open from June 19-25 exclusively for Bishop Museum Members. On June 26, the museum will open to the general public, and will offer free keiki admission for kama‘āina families and military families from June 26-July 5. Bishop Museum has instituted new protocols in order to keep visitors and employees safe according to guidelines from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. In addition, over the coming months Bishop Museum will be launching new “Outdoor Museum” experiences, a selection of offerings, activities, and events that will allow visitors opportunities to learn, play, and enjoy being outdoors on the museum’s 15-acre park-like campus.

“We’re very happy to be welcoming our community back to Bishop Museum,” said Melanie Ide, president & CEO of Bishop Museum. “Health and safety continue to be our highest priority, and all staff are prepared to institute and monitor safe practices. We recognize that many families are eager to get outdoors and off screens to break the usual routine, and we want to provide a safe and enriching outlet for this. We’re looking at new ways to interpret our gardens and historic grounds, bringing in partners to engage visitors in their work, and getting more shade for people to relax, picnic, or just watch their kids from a safe distance.”

From the June reopening through the month of July, Outdoor Museum programming will have the theme *Nā Mea Ola* or “Health and Wellness.” Guests are invited to participate in self-directed activities in Nā Ulu Kaiwi‘ula, the Native Hawaiian Garden and other areas; learn about the healing properties of plants on the Great Lawn; attend socially distanced presentations on food and its effects on physical and mental well-being; and have keiki take home a small growing kit via the “Grow and Go” activity. New themed programming for the Outdoor Museum will rotate on a monthly basis.

To keep safety as a top priority, all entering the museum campus will be required to wear a facemask at all times, practice social distancing of at least 6 feet, and are encouraged to practice good hand hygiene by frequently washing their hands for at least 20 seconds and using hand

sanitizer. In addition, daily capacity has been limited to no more than 500 people, and visitors are strongly encouraged to purchase their tickets online for a designated time slot, which helps to limit person-to-person contact with staff and to manage museum capacity. Staff have increased the frequency of cleaning and disinfecting across the campus, installed additional hand sanitizing stations as well as new outdoor hand washing stations, and installed Plexiglass shields at the admissions desk and at the Bishop Museum Café by Highway Inn counter. For more information on the museum's safety protocols, visit www.BishopMuseum.org/COVID19.

Upon reopening, visitors will also be able to enjoy Bishop Museum's offering of original exhibits.

Spineless Wonders: Rising from the Deep continues in the J.M. Long Gallery through June 28, 2020. This will be the last chance to explore stunning images by acclaimed nature photographer Susan Middleton, and encounter an array of marine invertebrates, usually hidden below the ocean's surface, from the Museum's collections.

Mai Kinohi Mai: Surfing in Hawai'i has been extended through March 28, 2021. Located in the Castle Memorial Building, the exhibit invites visitors to explore surfing as a culture, an art, a sport, and a way of life. Drawing from the richness of Bishop Museum's collections, the exhibit displays the oldest surfboards known to exist, some owned by Hawaiian royalty, as well as archival photos and manuscripts, an immersive media experience, a surfing simulator, and other interactives that examine the science of surf as well as the importance of sustainability and ocean conservation.

Opening in the Long Gallery on July 18, 2020, a new original exhibit, *Kaula Piko: The Source of Strings*, curated by Bishop Museum's historian DeSoto Brown in collaboration with Kilin Reece of the Kealakai Center for Pacific Strings, will explore the extraordinary instruments, performers, and music of 19th century Hawai'i and its influence on music around the world.

Exhibits in Bishop Museum's Hawaiian Hall, Pacific Hall, and Science Adventure Center will be open. Daily group tours and programs including the Lava Pour and J. Watumull Planetarium shows, will remain temporarily suspended.

During the month of June, visitors will receive complimentary parking with Bishop Museum admission on a first-come first-served basis. As a mahalo to the medical community, all medical workers and hospital staff can take advantage of a 50 percent discount on Bishop Museum Membership through June 30.

For more information about the Bishop Museum's reopening and to purchase tickets, visit www.BishopMuseum.org/EKomoMai.

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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 exists as a research institution and educational center for the community and is widely regarded as the world's premier museum containing Hawaiian and Pacific primary source

material. 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 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.