Kīpaepae Kā Mauli Kuauli

Monday, August 3, 2015
3:00pm Orientation for Hui Kīpaepae (Welcoming Group)
4:30pm Orientation for Malihini (Visitors)
5:00pm Start

The following steps are designed to introduce us to the space of Hilo on the island of Hawai‘i. To request entry permission of any new place and community promotes a sense of our own humility and establishes, upfront, a familial relationship between the visitor, the resident and the place to which the resident is connected. This is Hilo, welina mai!

Kaʻina - The Stepping-stones of Kīpaepae Kā Mauli Kuauli

Welina - Orientation of Participants: Both the Hui Kīpaepae (Welcoming group) and the Malihini (Visitors) will be oriented to the upcoming Kīpaepae experience. Orientation includes all participants as this ceremonial process sets the precedence for the conference to begin with an informed and cohesive consciousness; each and every person’s image, offering & participation contributes to the whole.

Orientation Schedule

Hui Kīpaepae (Welcoming Group): 3:00pm UHH Gym
Malihini (Visitors): 4:30pm UHH Campus Center Plaza

Kaʻi: The Malihini will be lead from the assembling site (UHH Plaza) to the Malae (Kīpaepae space in the UHH Gym). This procession is a reminder that as the group travels together they work to arrive at a similar commonplace, a space for exchange and connection.

Pū: The pū or conch is a deep ocean resident that is used in Kīpaepae by all Pacific peoples from Okinawa to Guatemala, from Aotearoa to Hawai‘i. To call to the ocean is to call to our very primordial ocean connections and subconscious ancestral memories; it is a call to our horizons, it’s a call to our visitors, “Come! Land your canoes on our shores so that we may share stories, ideas, and perspectives.” The pū serves as a reminder that the ocean connects us all and promotes further discussion on other avenues for building connections.

Pahu: The pahu speaks to our mother’s heartbeat, the first heartbeat we all hear in the womb. An experience we share as a collective whether we consciously remember or not. The sound of the pahu, “paka, paka” is the sound of the rain as it makes contact with the landscape and makes its way to our other pahu wai, our aquifers. The pahu resonates with our sky currents to feed the landscape, feed the kanaka, and remind us of our common, shared spaces.

Mele Komo: The request, in the form of a chant, by a representative on behalf of the Malihini to enter the space. The mele komo is the formal introduction of the group to the moku of Hilo. The purpose of this gathering is given with the humble request to be able to enter into the sacred space.
Mele Kahea: The response, in the form of a chant, from the Hui Kīpaepae to enter into the space. Hilo welcomes you to participate and be present for the creation of new, continued and rejuvenating collaboration and sharing.

Pīkai: Pa‘akai (salt) with water is an ancient global method of cleaning and clearing one’s path for good outcomes. As water is an element key to establishing life, the representation of these processes will be used in the beginning of our protocols (kīpaepae). Pa‘akai is also used as a way to preserve food. In offering pa‘akai, it is our hope to nourish your bodies and your spirit during this conference.

Mele - Kā Mauli Hou: Kā Mauli Hou is the recurring theme throughout the conference that will begin and close protocols each day. During this kīpaepae (opening protocol and procession) the mele, “Kā Mauli Hou,” will be repeated until the conclusion of the Kūkulu moku. Kā Mauli Hou means to ignite the spirit. We chant this mele to call out to the potentiality in all of us as we continue to grow, learn, change and inspire others towards a shared objective.

Kūkulu Moku: We ask that all participants bring with them a piece of their ‘āina - a small pōhaku or ‘īli‘ili (stone or pebble) – to contribute to the Kūkulu moku kuauli, or the building of our bountiful island. Within each pōhaku is the mauli of our ‘āina kuauli, the verdant landscapes we call home. It represents the elements that have formed the places that feed, nourish and inspire us. As we gather and later place our individual stone to build our collective foundation, let it remind us of the connections and collaborations we need to establish and nurture between place and people to acheive a Hawai‘i Kuauli - an abundant, resilient, and sustainable Hawai‘i.

During the mele Kā Mauli Hou, the Malihini will move from the back of the gym to the front of the gym and place their ‘ili‘ili on the moku kuauli before taking their seat.

Mele & Hei - ‘O Wākea Noho Iā Papahānaumoku: Our Moku kuauli has been built, our foundation has been set. Let us make this Moku kuauli pa‘a, firm and secure, and welcome the youngest island in to existence by calling upon and acknowledging those moku who came before. Recounting the birthing of our older islands through this mele ko‘i honua (cosmology chant) reminds us of the birthing of our individual consciousness. The Moku kuauli, present through out the whole conference will be a physical manifestation and a reminder of our intentions, and potentials during this conference.

Hula Pele: Hula moves currents below the earth, above the earth and in the body. Hula is the physical exchange of the kanaka’s water with the water of the landscape. Within the poetic texts or mele are powerful mantra that speak directly to the spirit of the land, ocean, sky, and hence to the spirit of kanaka. The Hula Pele honors the primordial fires deep inside the Earth that continue to create new land and life. These mele are offered to feed the fires deep within us all. May your fire burn bright and never be extinguished!

Waha ‘Ōlelo: A speech given by a member of the Hui Kīpaepae to contextualize the parts of the process which the group just experienced, and how it relates to what is to come.

Mo‘oka‘ao/Mana‘o Kūikawā: Dr. Pualani Kanahele Kanaka‘ole giving keynote speech.
Mele - Lei O Hilo: The Hui Kïpaepae will complete the process with the giving of lei to the Malihini. As a lei is the manifestation of the work, thoughts, and conscious intent of the lei maker, this action of bestowing lei serves to not only relay these positive intentions, but to bind our actions, discussions, and sharing together towards the common outcome and experience of “Hanohano Hawai‘i Kuauli.”

Kïpaepae through out the conference
Throughout the duration of the conference, all participants are welcomed and encouraged to learn mele and hei as a part of the Kïpaepae process. We will be providing opportunities to learn the mele and hei during the Kïpaepae wehena and panina, the daily opening and closing protocols. We will also have a booth set up during the conference to teach and practice mele and hei with all participants.

Kïpaepae Wehena: Daily morning protocol
Tuesday, August 4 -Thursday, Aug 6, 8:00a-8:15am – UHH Gym

Each morning we will begin the conference with the mele Kā Mauli Hou. During this time, all participants will have the opportunity to learn and practice this uplifting and inspiring mele.

Kïpaepae Panina: Daily afternoon protocol
Tuesday, August 4 – 5:30-5:45
Wednesday, August 5 – 2:45-3:00

Each afternoon members of the Hui Kïpaepae will hold a closing within each conference session. A Hei (a ceremonial string figure) will be taught to the participants during this time. This Hei will be done by all participants at the Kïpaepae Hoʻokuʻu to close the conference on Thursday, August 6th.

Kïpaepae Hoʻokuʻu
Thursday, August 6, 2015, 2:00pm-2:30pm – UHH Gym

At the end of the conference luncheon, we will all close the conference with the Kïpaepae Hoʻokuʻu. We will all chant Kā Mauli Hou while each participant takes home with them a pōhaku from the Moku kuauili. The pōhaku that finds you will now become part of your ʻāina kuauili. We will end with the Hei, A pō e.

The Kïpaepae Hoʻokuʻu is the official release from this sacred space. Participants are able to return to their homes, their community, and their programs with a heightened consciousness and renewed mauli or spirit. Kā Mauli Hou i ke Akua - May your full potential be ignited and realized!