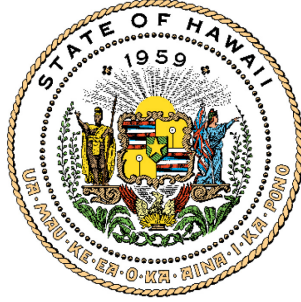




STATE OF HAWAII
KA MOKU 'ĀINA O HAWAI'I

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**HAWAII TOURISM AUTHORITY ANNOUNCES 2026 COMMUNITY
ENRICHMENT PROGRAM RECIPIENTS**

*Community-Based Organizations Statewide Selected to Present Authentic Experiences
for Residents and Visitors*

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

July 28, 2026

HONOLULU — The Hawaii Tourism Authority (HTA) today announced that 49 organizations will receive a total of \$1.5 million to support 60 programs through its 2026 Community Enrichment Program. The funding supports community-based events and experiences that celebrate Hawaii's culture, natural resources and sense of place, while benefiting residents and visitors.

The Community Enrichment Program provides funding for unique, authentic experiences developed by communities for residents and visitors. Eligible projects

include those focused on agriculture, culture, culinary arts, education, health and wellness, nature, sports and voluntourism.

“Community-based organizations play an important role in creating experiences that reflect the character and diversity of our islands,” said Caroline Anderson, interim president and CEO of HTA. “Through the Community Enrichment Program, we’re supporting initiatives that strengthen communities, celebrate local culture and create meaningful experiences for residents and visitors alike.”

The selected projects run from July through December 2026 and represent a diverse range of cultural festivals, agricultural events, educational programs, sporting events and community experiences across the state.

The organizations selected for the 2026 Community Enrichment Program are:

Statewide

Dates	Project	Organization	Islands
July 17-19 and Aug. 22, 2026	8th Garden Island Boogie Board Classic and the 18th Hubb Keiki Fest	Kaikeha	Kaua'i and O'ahu
July-November 2026	Hot Kūpuna Nights	Hawaiian Music Perpetuation Society	O'ahu, Kaua'i and Hawai'i Island
September-December 2026	Hawai'i Stays with You: Voluntourism Expansion Program	Kanu Hawai'i	Kaua'i, O'ahu, Maui and Hawai'i Island
Oct. 18 and Nov. 8, 2026	Hawaiian Slack Key Guitar Festival — Kona and Kaua'i	Ki-Ho'alu Foundation	Hawai'i Island and Kaua'i
December 2026	Mahi'ai2Visit	Hawai'i Agricultural Foundation	Kaua'i, O'ahu, Moloka'i, Maui, Lāna'i and Hawai'i Island

Hawai'i Island

Dates	Project	Organization
August and November 2026	Kahilu Fall Festival Series	Kahilu Theatre Foundation
July-September 2026	Niaulani Nature Trail, Cultural Experiences and Forest Fair	Volcano Art Center

Dates	Project	Organization
July-November 2026	From Blossom to Barrel: Hawai'i Honey and Pollinator Experience	Bird and Bee Animal Sanctuary
July-December 2026	Ke Kai Ola Open Houses and Volunteer Conservation Program	The Marine Mammal Center — Ke Kai Ola
Sept. 10-12, 2026	Hawai'i Songwriting Festival 2026	Hawai'i Songwriting Festival
Sept. 2-3, 2026	Paniolo Preservation Society 25th Anniversary Celebration and Ka Mea Kanu 'Ai: Paniolo BBQ and Slack Key Celebration	Nā'ālehu Theatre
Sept. 3-7, 2026	52nd Annual Queen Lili'uokalani Long Distance Outrigger Canoe Race	Kai 'Ōpua Canoe Club
Sept. 19, 2026	'Ulu Festival	Friends of Amy B.H. Greenwell Ethnobotanical Garden
Nov. 6-7, 2026	'Aha Hawai'i Kuauli Workshop Series	Hawai'i Island Pacific and Asia Cultural Celebration
Nov. 6-15, 2026	55th Annual Kona Coffee Cultural Festival	Kona Coffee Cultural Festival

Kaua'i

Dates	Project	Organization
July 10-11, 2026	Soto Zen Bon Festival	Kaua'i Soto Zen Temple Zenshuji
July-December 2026	Downtown Līhu'e Night Market	Rice Street Business Association
July-December 2026	Downtown Līhu'e Annual Events	Rice Street Business Association
Aug. 1-2, 2026	Heiva I Kaua'i Tahitian Dance and Drumming Competition	Heiva I Kaua'i
Sept. 6, 2026	The 2026 Kaua'i Marathon and Half Marathon	The Kaua'i Marathon
Sept. 20-26, 2026	Kaua'i Mokihana Festival 2026	Mālie Foundation
September-November 2026	Olohena 'ĀINA Center: Connecting Visitors to Local Food	Mālama Kaua'i
Oct. 18, 2026	2026 Kaua'i Chocolate and Coffee Festival	Mālama Kaua'i

Dates	Project	Organization
Oct. 9-10, 2026	Matsuri Kaua'i 2026 (41st)	Kaua'i Japanese Cultural Society
Nov. 7, 2026	Eō Emalani I Alaka'i	Historic Waimea Theater and Cultural Arts Center
Dec. 19, 2026	2026 Waimea Light Parade	Historic Waimea Theater and Cultural Arts Center

Lāna'i

Date	Project	Organization
Sept. 26, 2026	Lāna'i Festivals of Aloha	Festivals of Aloha

Maui

Dates	Project	Organization
July 2026	Mālama Pono	Pacific Whale Foundation
July and September 2026	Hui No'eau Exhibitions: Celebrating the Visual Arts of Hawai'i	Hui No'eau Visual Arts Center
July, October and December 2026	Hāna Arts Hō'ike — Summer Concert and Community Event Series	Hāna Arts
July-December 2026	Reclaiming 'Āina Momona: Restoring the Kapoho Loko I'a Kalo	Hawai'i Land Trust
July-December 2026	E Kanu Kākou "Let's Plant Together"	Auwahi Forest Restoration Project
July-December 2026	Wailuku First Friday	Festivals of Aloha
Aug. 14, 2026	Lahaina O-Bon Festival	Festivals of Aloha
Aug. 21-22, 2026	Emma Farden Sharpe Hula Festival	Festivals of Aloha
Sept. 5, 2026	Lā 'Ulu Breadfruit Day 2026	Maui Nui Botanical Gardens
Sept. 11-12, 2026	Lights for Lahaina	Aloha Amplified
Sept. 18-19, 2026	Celebration of the Arts	Festivals of Aloha
Sept. 27, 2026	'Ukulele Festival 2026	Maui Arts and Cultural Center
Oct. 17-24, 2026	Hāna Festivals of Aloha	Festivals of Aloha

Dates	Project	Organization
October-December 2026	Mahalo Quest Series	Aloha Amplified

Molokaʻi

Dates	Project	Organization
July 17-18, 2026	2026 Molokaʻi Holokai Hoʻolauleʻa	Youth in Motion
Sept. 25, 2026	Molokaʻi Canoe Festivals Presents Kulāia 2026	ʻAha Kukui O Molokaʻi
Oct. 9, 2026	Molokaʻi Festivals of Aloha	Festivals of Aloha

Oʻahu

Dates	Project	Organization
July 18-19, 2026	The 5th Annual Lūʻau — Hawaiʻi's Largest Grass Volleyball Tournament	Lanikai Athletic Club
July 23-26, 2026	2026 Honua Finals: The World Cup of Interscholastic Surfing	CUE Collaborative
Aug. 1, 2026	Legacy Stories	Hawaiʻi Theatre Center
Aug. 8, 2026	22nd Annual Korean Festival	Hawaiʻi Korean Chamber of Commerce Foundation
Aug. 22, 2026	Chinatown Building QR Code Project	Chinese Chamber of Commerce Foundation
Aug. 29-30, 2026	50th Annual Honolulu Intertribal Powwow	Hoʻopili Tribal Council
August and September 2026	Carnival of the Nearly Extinct Animals	Ocean Music Action
August-December 2026	Hotel Street Art Hui: Steps and Stories	Hawaiʻi Arts Alliance
Sept. 5-6, 2026	44th Okinawan Festival	Hawaiʻi United Okinawa Association
Sept. 25-27, 2026	Intimate Korea: 2026 Korean Independent Film Showcase in Hawaiʻi	Now Production Films
Sept. 25-27, 2026	Honolulu Century and the Ride Aloha Festival	Hawaiʻi Bicycling League

Dates	Project	Organization
Oct. 17-18, 2026	Lea Salonga in Concert with HSO	Hawai'i Symphony Orchestra
Nov. 5, 2026	FEAST Summit	Hawai'i Ag and Culinary Alliance
Nov. 14-15, 2026	2026 Kāne Cup Volleyball Tournament	Lanikai Athletic Club
Nov. 21, 2026	Skyline Stations of Abundance at Honouliuli	City and County of Honolulu
Dec. 12-13, 2026	2026 Hawai'i 'Ukulele Festival	Kala Foundation

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High-resolution images are available [here](#).

About the Hawai'i Tourism Authority

The Hawai'i Tourism Authority is the state agency responsible for representing the Hawaiian Islands around the world — and for holistically managing tourism in a sustainable manner consistent with community desires, economic goals, cultural values, preservation of natural resources and visitor industry needs. HTA works with the community and industry to mālama Hawai'i — care for our beloved home. For more information about HTA, visit hta.hawaii.gov or follow @HawaiiHTA on [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#), [Threads](#) and [X](#).

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