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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Lani Castido, Danile Sherman Win Overall Titles at Kaua`i Polynesian Festival

LIHU`E, Hawai`i, June 3, 2011 – The Kamanawa Foundation’s 10th Annual Kaua`i Polynesian Festival dazzled visitors and kama`aina throughout Memorial Day weekend with a host of Polynesian offerings, including dance competitions, crafts, food, workshops, and other entertainment at the Vidinha Stadium soccer field. Lani Castido of Ori Uvira was awarded the 2011 Vahine Polynesia title and Danile Sherman of Te Wai Ura Nui was awarded the 2011 Tane Polynesia title.

The official results for the 2011 Kaua`i Polynesian Festival U Tink U Get Talent contest and dance competitions are as follows:

U TINK U GET TALENT CONTEST

Junior Division Ages 6-17:

1st Place: Tamatea Nui O Kaua`i

2nd Place: Rainbow Star Zephier

3rd Place: Keahi Makekau, Mokonui Makeaku, Alex Galeai

Senior Division Ages 18 and Over:

1st Place: Aimee Sato and Moana Henriques

2nd Place: Eki Ripley

3rd Place: Emmsley Drake and Michael Drake

MAORI ACTION & POI BALLS

Group:

1st Place: Kia Manava Nui

2nd Place: Te Manawa `O Atooi

Solo:

1st Place: Karla Aeno Ku`upuamae`ole Asai, Healani’s Music & Dance Academy

2nd Place: Meighan Barretto, Te Manava `O Atooi

3rd Place: Meigan Taylor, Kia Manava Nui

SOLO HULA KAHIKO

Na Keiki Kane solo ages 6-12:

1st Place: Jojo Agsalud, Hula Halau O Hokulani

Na Keiki Kaikamahine solo ages 6-12:

1st Place: Rachel Ho, Hula Halau O Hokulani

GROUP HULA KAHIKO

Na Keiki Kaikamahine:

1st Place: Hula Halau O Hokulani

Na Opio Kaikamahine:

1st Place: Na Hui O Kamakaokalani

OVERALL KAHIKO KAMAKANE POLYNESIA

Jojo Agsalud, Hula Halau O Hokulani

OVERALL KAHIKO KAIKAMAHINE POLYNESIA

Rachel Ho, Hula Halau O Hokulani

TAHITIAN GROUP OTEA

Junior Division:

1st Place: Na Tamarii O Atooi

Senior Division:

1st Place: Te Vai Ura Nui

2nd Place: Atooi Marama

TAHITIAN GROUP OTEA BEST COSTUME

Te Vai Ura Nui

TAHITIAN GROUP APARIMA:

Senior Division:

1st Place: Te Vai Ura Nui

TAHITIAN GROUP APARIMA BEST COSTUME

Te Vai Ura Nui

TAHITIAN GROUP AHUPURUTU

Senior Division:

1st Place: Te Vai Ura Nui

2nd Place: Atooi Marama

OVERALL TAHITIAN GROUP

Te Vai Ura Nui

FIREKNIFE COMPETITION:

Junior Division:

1st Place: Quest Ava, Vaimatina

2nd Place: Malik Ava, Vaimatina

3rd Place: Alex Galeai, Vaimatina

Intermediate Division:

1st Place: Emmsley Drake, Rohotu

2nd Place: Jaylarae Galeai, Vaimatina

3rd Place: Natalie Oloa, Kalena's Polynesian `Ohana

Senior Division:

1st Place: Mikaela Oloa, Kalena's Polynesian `Ohana

2nd Place: Julian Maeava, Maeava I Patitifa

3rd Place: Paul Morimoto, Keiki O Ka `Aina

DRUMMING COMPETITION:

1st Place: Te Vai Ura Nui

2nd Place: Kalena's Polynesian `Ohana

ORI TAHITI WINNERS:

Vahine Ages 4-6:

1st Place: Serina Oswald, Halau Hula O Leilani

2nd Place: Serena Bryan, Uruhutia

3rd Place: Journey Sablan, Atooi Marama

Tane Ages 4-6:

1st Place: Wyndam Maycong, Kaliko Boy Entertainment

Vahine Ages 7-9:

1st Place: Mahelani Rowland, Tamatea Nui O Kaua`i

2nd Place: Chevelle Lele, Kalena's Polynesian `Ohana

3rd Place: Jade Oswald, Halau Hula O Leilani

Tane Ages 7-9:

1st Place: Kainoa Sagan, Manutahi

2nd Place: Oviri Avaeoru, Ta`eri Tai`i

Vahine Ages 10-12:

1st Place: Denise Robinson, Manutahi

2nd Place: Tehani Perkins, Te Vai Ura Nui

3rd Place: Jaylin Sablan, Atooi Marama

Senior Division:

Tane Ages 13-17:

1st Place: Clifton Keali`i Dasalia, Tamatea Nui O Kaua`i

2nd Place: Carley Kaipolei Awong, Tamatea Nui O Kaua`i

Vahine Ages 13-17:

1st Place: Andrea Baltazar, Urahutia

2nd Place: Naomi Baldomero, Te Vai Ura Nui

3rd Place: Cassandra Kanoho, Te Vai Ura Nui

Tane Ages 18-21:

1st Place: Peter Fuimaono, Maeava I Patitifa

2nd Place: Keanu Neill Mesiona, Manutahi Tahiti

Vahine Ages 18-21:

1st Place: Kaulani Carr, Maeva I Patitifa

2nd Place: Marin Johnson, Urahutia

3rd Place: Andrea Li-Aranaydo, Ia Ora O Tahiti

Tane Ages 22-25:

1st Place: Taitusi Taufu, Ia Ora O Tahiti Nui

Vahine Ages 22-25:

1st Place: Lani Costido, Ori Uvira

2nd Place: Heather Jose, Te Vai Ura Nui

3rd Place: Kawehi Oliver, Urahutia

Tane Ages 26-30:

1st Place: Manarii Gauthier, Ia Ora O Tahiti Nui

2nd Place: Julian Maeva, Maeva I Patitifa

3rd Place: Sonny Ganaden, Te Vai Ura Nui

Vahine Ages 26-30:

1st Place: Teresa Bringas, Ia Ora O Tahiti Nui

2nd Place: Shannon Paraan, Maeva I Patitifa

3rd Place: Maila Downing, Urahutia

Tane Ages 31-39:

1st Place: Danile Sherman, Te Vai Ura Nui

2nd Place: Jacob Smilie Punzal, A Smilie Production

3rd Place: Keala Kahuanui Paleka, Ia Ora O Tahiti Nui

Vahine Ages 31-39:

1st Place: Nalini Gauthier, Ia Ora O Tahiti Nui

Tane Ages: 40 & Over

1st Place: Lawakua Gene Gabriel, Manutahi

Vahine Ages: 40 & Over

1st Place: Louise Sausen, Urahutia

TAHITIAN COUPLES COMPETITION

Junior Division:

1st Place: Taylor Acosta and Kainoa Sagan, Manutahi

Senior Division:

1st Place: Julian Maeva and Sheila Allagorez, Maeva I Patitifa

2nd Place: Manarii and Nalini Gauthier, Ia Ora O Tahiti Nui

3rd Place: Taleon Lele and Natalie Oloa, Kalena's Polynesian `Ohana

OVERALL TANE & VAHINE POLYNESIA

Tane Polynesia: Danile Sherman, Te Vai Ura Nui

Vahine Polynesia: Lani Castido, Ori Uvira

“It is with a full, grateful heart that I thank all of our competitors, craft and food vendors, sponsors, volunteers, and Kauaʻi’s residents and visitors, whom contributed to a successful 10th annual Kauaʻi Polynesian Festival,” said Kauaʻi Polynesian Festival Director Kapu Kinimaka-Alquiza.

Sponsors for the event include Aloha Rainbow Screening, B&B Tahitian Pearls, County of Kauaʻi, Deli and Bread Connection, Dollar Rent a Car, Grand Hyatt Resort & Spa, Hawaiian Airlines, Hawaiʻi Tourism Authority, Hilo Hattie, Hula Girl Bar and Grill, Kauaʻi Beach Resort, Kauaʻi Marriott Resort & Beach Club, Kauaʻi Visitors Bureau, Malie Foundation, Outrigger Kiahuna Plantation, Oceanic Time Warner Cable, Sheraton Kauaʻi Resort, The JK Show, and Walaʻau.

Established in 1994, the Kamanawa Foundation is a Kauaʻi-based non-profit organization. Its mission is to preserve, promote and perpetuate the Native Hawaiian culture, including the languages, social values, arts, crafts and music, primarily through the study of hula. The Kamanawa Foundation hosts three annual events that highlight hula and Polynesian performing arts including the Kauaʻi Polynesian Festival, Holiday Hula Celebration, and Kauaʻi Hula Exhibition. For more information, visit www.kauaipolynesianfestival.org.

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