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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE – Kauluwehiokekai Oliver, Julian Maeva Reign at Kaua`i Polynesian Festival**

LIHU`E, Hawai`i, June 2, 2008 – The Kamanawa Foundation awarded the 8<sup>th</sup> Annual Kaua`i Polynesian Festival 2008 Vahine Polynesia title to Kauluwehiokekai Oliver, of Halau Urahutia, and the 2008 Tane Polynesia title to Julian Maeva, of Halau Toa Ole Afi. Both competed in the Tahitian Ori (solo) contest to capture the top honors. The official results for the 2008 Kaua`i Polynesian Festival competitions are as follows:

**MAORI ACTION & POI BALLS:**

**Group:**

- 1<sup>st</sup> Place: Te Manawa `O Atooi
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Place: Na Hula O Kaohikukapulani
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Place: Halau Tehamata

**Solo:**

- 1<sup>st</sup> Place: Elshae Tanimoto, Kia Manawanui
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Place: Pa`a Anderson, Kia Manawanui
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Place: Meigan Barretto, Halau Hula O Keala

**NA KUPUNA GROUP HULA AUWANA:**

- 1<sup>st</sup> Place: Halau Sakura No Hana, Kyushu Hawaiian Association, Yayoi Tagami, Instructor
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Place (3- way tie): Halau Ke`Aala O Ka Kupukupu, Halau Na Lei Pikake, Halau Na lei Mokihana

**BEST MUSIC AWARD (4-way tie):**

- Kaleo Club, Doric Yaris
- Lady Ipo & Na Hoaloha
- Kolonahe, Maka Herrod
- Na Kapu Mele

**SOLO HULA KAHIKO:**

**Na Keiki Kane Ages 6-12:**

- 1<sup>st</sup> Place: Justin Agsalud, Halau Hula O Hokuani

**Na Kaikamahine Ages 6-12:**

- 1<sup>st</sup> Place: Jasmin Leilei Santos, Halau Na Pua Mai Ka Lani
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Place: Haylie Laniali`i Cantberos, Halau Olapaku`ikala`i O Hokuaulani

**Na Opio Kane Ages 13-17:**

- 1<sup>st</sup> Place: Lance Sadumiano, Halau Na Pua Mai Ka Lani

**Na Opio Kaikamahine Ages 13-17:**

- 1<sup>st</sup> Place: Tiffany Duran, Halau Na Pua MaiKa Lan
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Place: Brianna Ramos, Halau Olapaku`ikala`i `O Hokuaulani

Na Kane Ages 18-54:

1<sup>st</sup> Place: Richard Sua`ava - Halau Olapaku`ikala`i`O Hokuaulani

Na Wahine Ages 18-54:

1<sup>st</sup> Place: Kathleen Mahealani Tavete, Halau Na Pua Mai Ka Lani

2<sup>nd</sup> Place: Katrina Hi`ilani Johnson, Halau Olapaku`ikala`i`O Hokuaulani

GROUP HULA KAHIKO:

Na Keiki Kane:

1<sup>st</sup> Place: Halau Hula `O Hokulani

Na Kaikamahine:

1<sup>st</sup> Place: Halau Na Pua Mai Ka Lani

2<sup>nd</sup> Place: Halau Olapaku`ikala`i`O Hokuaulani

3<sup>rd</sup> Place: Halau Hula O Hokulani

Na Wahine:

1<sup>st</sup> Place: Halau Olapaku`ikala`i`O Hokuaulani

2008 OVERALL KAHIKO KANE POLYNESIA:

Richard Sua`ava, Halau Olapaku`ikala`i`O Hokuaulani

2008 OVERALL KAHIKO WAHINE POLYNESIA:

Jasmin Leilei Santos, Halau Na Pua Mai Ka Lani

TAHITIAN GROUP OTEA:

Junior Division:

1<sup>st</sup> Place: Te Hamata

2<sup>nd</sup> Place: Tiare Ura O Tahiti

3<sup>rd</sup> Place: Te Ea O Te Turama

TAHITIAN GROUP OTEA:

Senior Division:

1<sup>st</sup> Place: Te Hamata

2<sup>nd</sup> Place: Tiare Ura O Tahiti

TAHITIAN GROUP OTEA BEST COSTUME:

Te Hamata

TAHITIAN GROUP APARIMA:

Junior Division:

1<sup>st</sup> Place: Te Ea O Te Turama

Senior Division:

1<sup>st</sup> Place: Te Hamata

TAHITIAN GROUP APARIMA BEST COSTUME:

Te Ea O Te Turama

TAHITIAN GROUP AHUPUROTU:

Senior Division:

1<sup>st</sup> Place: Ka pa Hula O Pualani Puamelia

2<sup>nd</sup> Place: Te Hamata

3<sup>rd</sup> Place: Te Ea O Te Turama

TAHITIAN DRUMMING COMPETITION:

1<sup>st</sup> Place: Te Hamata

2<sup>nd</sup> Place: Manutahi

3<sup>rd</sup> Place: Te Ea O Te Turama

2008 OVERALL TAHITIAN GROUP:

Te Hamata

FIREKNIFE COMPETITION:

Junior Division:

1<sup>st</sup> Place: Hale Motuapuaka

Intermediate Division:

1<sup>st</sup> Place: Kamohoali'i Pukahi

2<sup>nd</sup> Place: Ua Mana Castillo

3<sup>rd</sup> Place: Justin Siliala Castillo

Senior Division:

1<sup>st</sup> Place: Mikaele Oloa

2<sup>nd</sup> Place: Paul Morimoto

3<sup>rd</sup> Place: Peter Whitney

ORI TAHITI WINNERS:

Junior Division:

Tane Ages 4-6:

1<sup>st</sup> Place: Qamdon Josue

Vahine Ages 4-6:

1<sup>st</sup> Place: Jeida Angelina Toilolo

2<sup>nd</sup> Place: Kaylee Tabangay

3<sup>rd</sup> Place: Leleaka Anakalea

Tane Ages 7-9:

1<sup>st</sup> Place: Troy Spacek

Vahine Ages 7-9:

1<sup>st</sup> Place: Tiare Naone Judd

2<sup>nd</sup> Place: Tehani Perkins

3<sup>rd</sup> Place: Dizhae Josue

Tane Ages 10-12:

1<sup>st</sup> Place: Jay Spacek

2<sup>nd</sup> Place: Zacchus Uta

3<sup>rd</sup> Place: Tamatoa Uta

Vahine Ages 10-12:

1<sup>st</sup> Place: Maeleen Hopeau

2<sup>nd</sup> Place: Cami Kellinui

3<sup>rd</sup> Place: Sandy Hopeau

Senior Division:

Tane Ages 13-17:

1<sup>st</sup> Place: Moni Tiata

2<sup>nd</sup> Place: Emmsley James K. Drake

3<sup>rd</sup> Place: Rhansyn Leehong

Vahine Ages 13-17:

1<sup>st</sup> Place: Chelsea Clement

2<sup>nd</sup> Place: Shayna Lei Soma

3<sup>rd</sup> Place: Lia Kaupoe

Tane Ages 18-21:

1<sup>st</sup> Place: James Taulog

2<sup>nd</sup> Place: Shane Galicia

3<sup>rd</sup> Place: Aaron Dung

Vahine Ages 18-21:

1<sup>st</sup> Place: Kauluwehiokekai Oliver

2<sup>nd</sup> Place: Cavalei Wilson

3<sup>rd</sup> Place: Kelcie Yoman

Tane Ages 22-25:

1<sup>st</sup> Place: Julian Maeva

Vahine Ages 22-25:

1<sup>st</sup> Place: Shaeja Lee

2<sup>nd</sup> Place: Leah Sausen

Tane Ages 26-30:

1<sup>st</sup> Place: Ambrose Aukustino

Vahine Ages 26-30:

1<sup>st</sup> Place: Pualani Avaeoru

2<sup>nd</sup> Place: Shannon Pauoli-Paraan

3<sup>rd</sup> Place: Alma Damo

Tane Ages 31-39:

1<sup>st</sup> Place: William Maycong

Vahine Ages 31-39:

1<sup>st</sup> Place: Belinda Miranda

2<sup>nd</sup> Place: Kehau Aina

3<sup>rd</sup> Place: Tasha Josue

Tane Ages 40 & Over:

1<sup>st</sup> Place: Gene Gabriel

Vahine Ages 40 & Over:

1<sup>st</sup> Place: Louse Sausen

#### TAHITIAN COUPLES COMPETITION:

Junior Division:

1<sup>st</sup> Place: Tehani Perkins & Tamatoa Uta

2<sup>nd</sup> Place: Poerava Lee & Zacchaus Uta

Senior Division:

1<sup>st</sup> Place: Kirsten McCracken & Emmsley James Drake

2<sup>nd</sup> Place: Chelsea Clement & Kai Lee

#### OVERALL TANE & VAHINE POLYNESIA

2008 Tane Polynesia: Julian Maeva

2008 Vahine Polynesia: Kauluwehiokekai Oliver

"Mahalo to all of our competitors that traveled from near and far, craft and food vendors, sponsors, volunteers, and Kauai's residents and visitors that came out to the event," said Kaua'i Polynesian Festival Director Kapu Kinimaka-Alquiza.

The Kaua'i Polynesian Festival began on Thursday, May 22 with a Grand Polynesian Lu'au at the Sheraton Kaua'i Resort and continued Friday, May 23 through Sunday, May 25 at the Vidinha Stadium soccer field with cultural offerings, including dance competitions, crafts, food, workshops, and other entertainment.

Sponsors for the event include, B&B Tahitian Pearls, County of Kaua'i, Deli and Bread Connection, Dollar Rent a Car, Hawaiian Airlines, Hawai'i Tourism Authority, Hawai'i Visitors Bureau, Hilo Hattie, Hula Girl Bar and Grill, Kauai Marriott Resort & Beach Club, Malie Foundation, Oceanic Time Warner Cable, Sheraton Kaua'i Resort, The JK Show, Waimea Plantation Cottages, Wala'au.

Established in 1994, the Kamanawa Foundation is a Kaua'i-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 Kaua'i Polynesian Festival, Holiday Hula Celebration, and Kaua'i Hula Exhibition.

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