

4th Annual Molokai Education Resource Experience

By: CH



On May 10, 2025, the Molokai community gathered at Lanikeha for the 4th Annual Molokai Education Resource Experience — and it was a great day from start to finish! Hosted by the Molokai Homestead Farmers Alliance, the event was filled with great food, many craft vendors, and a strong sense of community spirit.

A wide variety of craft and food vendors were on hand, giving folks a chance to support local and enjoy some seriously ono food made by some incredibly talented people. From handmade goods to delicious grinds, there was truly something for everyone. One of the big highlights that had people sticking around until the end was the lucky drawing for six individual round-trip tickets for Hawaiian Airlines.

This event also featured live music by Christian (from Ho’onua) and Friends, this added a great touch to the afternoon. The band played for a solid hour, creating the perfect cruising vibe for everyone relaxing under the tent and soaking in the moment.

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And then there was the pie-eating contest, the winner won \$100!, and of course, the greased pig contest. Yes, you read that right — if you caught the pig, you got to keep it! It was messy, hilarious, and totally unforgettable.

Big mahalo to the Molokai Homestead Farmers Alliance for putting on such an amazing event for the community. Special thanks also to Lt. Governor Sylvia Luke and Senator Lynn DeCoite for their support and involvement in making the day a success.

This event was a very cool way to bring the community together and also for people to get their resource out there to share with the community. It’s so exciting to say that we are already looking forward to next year!

In This Newspaper You Can Expect:

4th Annual Molokai Education Resource Experience

Lilo & Stich

Molokai Educational Resource Experience

Molokai Early Childhood Needs Survey

‘Ōlelo No’eau

Kapono’s Korner



MOLOKAI HOMESTEAD
— FARMERS ALLIANCE —
FARMERS HELPING FARMERS

MAHALO!



Mahalo to Lieutenant Governor Sylvia Luke, and Senator Lynn DeCoite for taking time to join us for an amazing evening

A heartfelt Mahalo to everyone who joined us and actively participated in making this event a success! We are truly grateful for each and every one of you who contributed to its success. We're already excited about collaborating with the community again to create even more memorable events in the future!





Disney's highly anticipated live-action remake of *Lilo & Stitch* is set to hit U.S. theaters on May 23, 2025. This new adaptation brings the beloved 2002 animated classic to life, focusing on the heartwarming story of a young Hawaiian girl named Lilo and her unlikely bond with Stitch, an alien experiment originally designed for destruction. The film explores powerful themes of family, love, and belonging, as Lilo teaches Stitch the true meaning of 'ohana—the Hawaiian concept of extended family. Directed by Dean Fleischer Camp, the film aims to preserve the charm and humor of the original while exploring the emotional depth of Lilo and her older sister, Nani. The live-action format provides a more grounded, intimate portrayal of their struggles and connection, expanding the story's emotional impact for modern audiences. Music plays a central role in *Lilo & Stitch*, and the 2025 adaptation embraces this by blending traditional Hawaiian influences with modern reinterpretations of beloved songs. "Burning Love," produced by Bruno Mars, is a modern rendition of the Elvis Presley classic, performed by his nephews, Nyjah Music and Zyah Rhythm. "Hawaiian Roller Coaster Ride" features American Idol winner Iam Tongi in collaboration with the Kamehameha Schools Children's Chorus.

"He Lei Pāpahi No Lilo a me Stitch" is a new original song performed by Hawaiian chanter Mark Keali'i Ho'omalulu, who worked on the original film, and the children's chorus, rooted in traditional Hawaiian chant. Finally, "Aloha 'Oe" is performed as a touching duet by Sydney Agudong and Maia Kealoha. Sydney Agudong portrays Nani Pelekai, she was born on November 13, 2000, in Kaua'i, Hawai'i, Sydney is a multi-talented actress, singer, and songwriter. *Lilo & Stitch* marks her first major starring role in a feature film. Maia Kealoha, born December 14, 2016, in Kailua-Kona, Hawai'i, stars as Lilo. Maia's journey to the role began with her participation in the Mini Miss Kona Coffee pageant at age five, where she expressed her aspiration to become an actress. While the original animated film was set in Hanalei on the island of Kaua'i, the live action remake was primarily filmed on the island of O'ahu. Notable filming locations include Hale'iwa, Kalaniana'ole Highway, Waikiki Beach, Hawaii Film Studio in Honolulu, and Kane'ohe. If you get the chance, definitely watch Disney's live-action *Lilo & Stitch*. It's a heartfelt story full of fun, family, and Hawaiian spirit that's sure to warm your heart and bring a smile to your face. Don't miss it!

MOLOKAI EARLY CHILDHOOD NEEDS SURVEY



Your voice is vital in ensuring that our youngest residents—prenatal to 5 years old—have the resources and support they need to thrive. We're conducting a survey to identify gaps in the services available to our keiki and their families on the island.



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‘Ōlelo No’eau

Ho'olohe Ke Pepeiao Nana I Kamaka Hana Kā Lima

“Listen carefully. Observe with eyes, work with the hands.”



Hāpu‘u: The Hawaiian Tree Fern

By: Kapono Fulton

Where It Grows

Hāpu‘u , flourishes in the wet, forested areas, especially on the windward sides of the islands at elevations from 1,000 to 6,000 feet. Where it can stretch up to 35 feet tall. It thrives in moist, slightly acidic soil and grows slowly, about an inch per year, either rooted in the ground or perched on other trees.



Significance to Native Hawaiians

Hāpu‘u has deep roots in Native Hawaiian life. During famines, its starchy core was a last-resort food, cooked in an imu for three days to make it safe to eat. The saying “He hāpu‘u ka ‘ai he ai make” (“If the hāpu‘u is the food, it is the food of death”) hints at the dire straits it signaled. Practically, its pulu (soft fronds) patched wounds and preserved bodies, while the trunk served as a planter for crops like uhi (yam). Known as the “mother of the forest,” it supports other plants by cradling their seeds and spores, making it a vital piece of both ecology and heritage.



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Mahalo nui for reading!

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