

EDB Committee

From: Kahulu Maluo <kamaluokaleihulu@yahoo.com>
Sent: Thursday, September 10, 2020 5:38 PM
To: EDB Committee
Cc: Keani N. Rawlins; Kelly King
Subject: Economic Development and Budget Committee Meeting for 9/10/20 @ 4:30PM

Aloha mai e Committee Chair Rawlins-Fernandez, Committee Co-Chair King a me Council members:

I am writing in support of the allocated CARES Act funds for E Kūpa'a Kākou, a Hawaiian music and hula series honoring the strength of our community.

As the Kumu Hula of Hālau Kamaluokaleihulu, I am aware of the effects that the COVID19 pandemic has had on our beautiful island, and community with the loss of tourism, gatherings and convention business. Unlike many of the industries that enjoy traditional employer benefits and protections, a hālau survives mainly on the support of its members and their supporting `ohana, in addition to any performances or "paying gigs" we are asked for and accept. As we were unprotected by the downturn and are often excluded in seeking some of the traditional protections and aid issued, this forced us to close our doors for a while, and even with the relaxed restriction, we are still struggling with the required CDC restrictions, reduced financial capacity of our hālau members, and the overall uncertainty of the times.

We are grateful and so excited for this music series! We appreciate being considered as one the participating hālau. As the series has been named, E Kūpa'a Kākou, we will all stand determined together as Maui community, giving hope to each other for a brighter tomorrow. We are thankful for the relief and support, and again commit our hālau to the betterment of Maui.

If there are any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me directly.

Mahalo nui loa,

Kumu Hula Kahulu Maluo Pearson

Hālau Kamaluokaleihulu

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