## Our Vision: A Center to Honor Kailua's Past and Enrich Her Future

The oral histories of four and five centuries past describe Kailua, Koʻolaupoko, Oʻahu as a nexus of cultural excellence in our islands. The hula thrived here, as did chant, storytelling, oratory, and the applied arts. Kailua was home to the wise and the accomplished. It was a haven to the master and the seeker of mastery.

Remnants of this old, deep culture exist in Kailua today, but only in disconnected fashion: a lauhala weaver at his kitchen table, a kapa maker in her parents' garage, a keiki language class above a bakery, a sacred hula on the Pier One sidewalk. There is no court of Kākuhihewa, no academy of scholars at Pāmoa, no wealth of fish and taro in Kawainui, no guardian moʻo to oversee the harmonious relationships of land and people.

Because we cannot sit in idle consternation while our heritage frays and unravels beyond recognition, we intend to reestablish in Kailua a learning center appropriate to the dedicated study, practice, and promotion of our culture. We intend, by means of Hālau Hikaʻalani, to restore Kailua to its former prominence – to a position of Hawaiian cultural excellence that will honor Kailua's past and enrich its future.

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