

**TRANSCRIPT: “NĀ KŪKULU” (*The Pillars*) PERFORMANCE
WITH KAHILI LONG CUMMINGS & ‘OHANA**

Ke ‘Ano Wikiō (<i>Type</i>)	HPS Event: Performance (edited)
Kūpuna (<i>Elders</i>)	Kahili Long Cummings & ‘Ohana, Brown ‘Ohana
Nā Helu Wikiō (<i>Tape #s</i>)	HPS 0575, HPS 0577 (<i>pg. 2</i>)
Lā (<i>Date</i>)	July 26, 2005
Wahi (<i>Location</i>)	Ka ‘Aha Hula ‘o Hālaauola (World Conference on Hula), Maui Arts & Cultural Center, Wailuku, Pū‘ali Komohana, Maui
Luna Ho‘omalū (<i>Moderator(s)</i>)	Hokulani Holt Padilla
Kanaka Ho‘opa‘a Mo‘olelo (<i>Videographer</i>)	Gene Kois & Sally Hill
Nā hoa kipa (<i>Others present</i>)	Brown ‘Ohana, Kaniau Padilla, Lono Padilla, Ulalia Woodside, audience members



<p>Nā Loina Ho‘ohana (<i>Access & Use</i>)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ <i>This Transcript is provided as a research tool; Each document represents one (1) multi-hour session</i> ➤ <i>HPS does not include Hawaiian diacritical markings in peoples’ names, mele titles, or commercial names/locations that do not historically use them (i.e. Halekulani Hotel)</i> ➤ <i>Information in brackets reflect physical movement, background sounds, censored content, clarifications, colloquialisms, and "sic" terms (words likely intended by the speaker)</i> ➤ <i>DISCLAIMER: Please be advised that this transcript may contain content of a mature nature that may not be suitable for youth</i> ➤ <i>When citing this resource, please use: “Hula Preservation Society”</i> ➤ <i>For questions regarding use of content contained herein, please contact archive@hulapreservation.org or call (808) 247-9440</i> ➤ <i>We acknowledge there may still be corrections needed. If you find items of question (content, spelling, etc.), please take note and kindly contact us at archive@hulapreservation.org We appreciate your kōkua!</i>
---	--

**PERFORMANCE – “NĀ KŪKULU” (*The Pillars*) HULA PERFORMANCE WITH KAHILI LONG CUMMINGS
& ‘OHANA**

Raw Tape #s: HPS 0575, HPS 0577

Date: July 26, 2005

**Location: Ka ‘Aha Hula ‘o Halauaola (World Conference on Hula), Maui Arts & Cultural Center, Wailuku, Pū‘ali
Komohana, Maui**

Moderator: Hokulani Holt Padilla

Videographers: Gene Kois & Sally Hill

[TEXT & PHOTO]

Kahili Long Cummings

Kumu Hula

(00:20)

[TEXT SCROLL]

In 2005, Auntie Kahili appeared with four generations of her family in a very special performance on her home island of Maui. She was 87 years young at the time.

Her ‘ohana gathered onstage alongside long-time family friends, the Browns. The Longs shared the hula and the Browns the music, as it has so beautifully been for generations.

The presentation took place at the Maui Arts & Cultural Center in 2005 as part of the Ka ‘Aha Hula ‘o Hālaauaola evening program entitled “Nā Kūkulu, The Pillars”.

(00:58)

HHP: We’re so happy to be here with you folks this evening and to share a little bit of family traditions as it has come through various generations. This evening we’d like to open the performance this evening— uh, the presentation that’s being done by the Brown and Long ‘Ohana. And to begin, we’d like to introduce ourselves as is common in traditional Hawaiian culture. First with a ko‘o—ko‘ihonua, which is a way that we recognize the creation that is around us, and it is being done by Kaniau Padilla.

(1:53)

[KANIAU PADILLA RECITES KO‘IHONUA]

(2:23)

[CHEERS/APPLAUSE]

HHP: Mahalo. The next way we introduce ourselves is through our family genealogy. The family genealogy that will be done will be back for several generations and come to the present time. We’d like to introduce Lono Padilla.

(2:45)

[LONO PADILLA RECITES MOOKUAUHAU] E ola.

FAMILY MEMBERS: E ola.

(4:48)

[APPLAUSE]

HHP: We're very happy to be here with you folks this evening. And these two families have joined together as we have for many generations. My grandparents knew each other and were friends. Our parents knew each other and are friends. We know one another and are friends. Our children, grandchildren and so on. These two families have been residents and kupa o ka 'āina of Wai'ehu for many generations. When it comes time for us to do things, the Brown 'Ohana is our music, and the Long 'ohana are the dancers. And so, this evening, we would like to do the same things. Um, Sheldon, you like introduce your 'ohana.

SHELDON BROWN: 'kay, in the back here, you know [CHUCKLES] we're in the back row ... If you wanna take picture of the Brown 'Ohana, you need wide angle.

[LAUGHTER]

SHELDON BROWN: My sisters aren't here, but my brother is here. And if you have my sisters and my brother—brothers and we stood on the two-lane highway, we would fill up right straight across, side by side ... 'cause we are built for comfort—[LAUGHTER] not for speed. [LAUGHTER] On the far right there is my nephew Ikaika, and uh—[APPLAUSE/CHEERS] He belongs to his mother and father. This is my brother Kevin right here. [APPLAUSE] And in between these two is part of the Long family; this is Nuu. He gets to join us in the back row here; it's where all the guys are. The back row.

[APPLAUSE]

SHELDON BROWN: And to my left here this guy come from Nāpo'opo'o. [CHUCKLES] Actually uh, he fell in love with the islands and came to live here with us, and that he just loves to pay the high gas—gasoline prices like all of you are. So, this is Joe B. So he comes from uh, St. Louis, Missouri. [APPLAUSE] But he lives right here with us. Joe Bommarito is his name. Mahalo.

[APPLAUSE]

HHP: Mahalo. And we'd like to introduce our family this way. Um, my grandmother and my grandfather—my grandfather—father from Kaua'i and my grandmother from Maui joined together here on Maui and had fifteen children. Of the fifteen children, thirteen lived to adulthood. To this day, there are five that are still alive. Four of them are here tonight.

[APPLAUSE]

HHP: In the order—oh, sorry, I went jam up. Don't move. Okay. In the order of birth is my Auntie Kahili Long Cummings. [APPLAUSE] My Uncle Alex Kanialama Long [APPLAUSE]. Ma, you next yeah, Mom? Okay. Next is my mother, Leianaikaroselaniomai Long Holt Woodside [APPLAUSE]. And the youngest that is with us here this evening is my Uncle Malu Long [APPLAUSE]. The next generation is myself and my cousin Daphne. Uh, she belongs to my Auntie Kahili, which she's standing behind. [APPLAUSE] And my youngest sister Ualalia; she's standing behind our mother. [APPLAUSE] Then the next generation down is uh, the middle child, which is my son Lono. [APPLAUSE] Then my youngest daughter Papaikaniau. [APPLAUSE] And the next generation down is our cousin Nuu, that is sitting in the back. [APPLAUSE] That's—okay, so we have one, two, three, four generations of us on the stage. [APPLAUSE] And a couple in the audience who didn't want to come up. [CHUCKLES] Hanakukalele!

Um, what we’d like to share is music and dance in our family. We were very fortunate that my grandmother, Ida Pakulani Kaaihue Kaianui Long, was a kumu hula and taught her ja—children to sing and to dance. Of the seven daughters, three became kumu hula: my Auntie Mae Loebenstein, my Auntie Kahili Cummings, and my mother, Leiana Woodside. It is fortunate that we still have them here with us.

[APPLAUSE]

HHP: We just enjoy singing and dancing. We don’t do recordings. We don’t um, go perform. We don’t do any of that. We just enjoy singing, and we enjoy dancing. So this evening, what we’re going to share with you is some of the things we do at home when the family gets together. We are all, as I said before, from Wai‘ehu. For those of you who don’t know where Wai‘ehu is, if—if you learned “I Waikapu Ke Aloha” you all know where Wai‘ehu is. [LAUGHTER] Wai‘ehu is the third valley down on this end. The Brown ‘Ohana was from mauka. They were up from the mountains. The Long ‘Ohana was makai. We were from down at the ocean ... and meet in church. [CHUCKLES] We meet in church. And that’s where singing for many of us begins in church. And so this evening we would like to share our love for our home, Wai‘ehu; that even though all of us traveled from a great distance, live in many different places, we love Wai‘ehu. And so, a hula that we’d like to do for you was written by a man by the name of David Alawa and it talks about Wai‘ehu in Hanohano Waiehu. We’d like to invite Lono and Ulalia to join us.

[APPLAUSE]

(12:28)

[‘OHANA LONG & ‘OHANA BROWN SING & PLAY: Hanohano Waiehu; LONO & ULALIA DANCE HULA]

(15:16)

[APPLAUSE]

HHP: In that particular hula, the style we decided to emulate is the style of our grandparents. This is the style that my grandmother would dance in, and this is the style that my grandfather would dance in; somewhat different than what is normally seen today. The other thing that we would like to do is share that time of my grandparents, and to share the music that they enjoyed singing. Some of these mele may or may not be familiar, I think, to most of you they are not familiar unless you are like 80! [LAUGHTER] But they are songs that our grandparents sang, and they are songs that we continue to enjoy, because we remember our times with them. We’d like to do a medley of two songs about Maui.

(16:23)

[‘OHANA LONG & ‘OHANA BROWN SING & PLAY MAUI MEDLEY]

(20:38)

[APPLAUSE]

HHP: Can’t you just hear the backyard?

[CHEERS/APPLAUSE]

HHP: When my uncles and aunties and my mother were young, they played bass, guitar, ‘ukulele, piano; and all self-taught ’cause that’s what our grandmother said. Come on, you kids, get up. [CHUCKLES] How many of you come from families like that? I know all these guys behind here who are sharing family traditions, it was all the same, yeah? Come on, come on you kids, come on, come on, get up, get up. And away you go. Um, so it was in our family as well. So when we get together, we enjoy singing the songs of our grandparents. Our grandmother, my grandmother, their mother, their great grandmother—my grandmother was a kumu hula here on Maui, but she also composed music and played slack key. One of the things we enjoyed is listening to her play slack key, which wasn’t often, because she was busy raising fifteen children. But when she was in the mood, she would play slack key. The thing that is left for us—and we have asked the Brown ‘Ohana in the past as well as today to help us with is one of her compositions.

SHELDON BROWN: 2000.

HHP: In the year 2000—oh, sorry—In the year 2000 um, the Brown ‘Ohana recorded my grandmother’s composition, and it was awarded for Haku Mele, or Hawaiian composition, a Hōkū Hanohano award.

[APPLAUSE]

HHP: For those of you who don’t know that’s like our Grammys; that’s like our Grammys, and we were very grateful that the Brown ‘Ohana chose to sing that song on their recording. And that the Nā Hōkū Hanohano award granted that as one of the Hawaiian compositions. So this evening, we have asked them to help us to sing. And we have asked two members of my cousin’s hālau, which is on O‘ahu; and, you know, we just told them last night. [LAUGHTER] Yeah, back there, guys, you know that one too, yeah. [CHUCKLES]. Oh, I think—Let’s do this. You know, so that happened last night. So they were profusely apologizing for regular street clothes, because we told them last night. Lucky Kapa got here in time ’cause she was on the huaka’i that just got back. So we would like to thank um, the members of uh, okay, Ka Pā Hula o Kauanoē o Wa‘ahila from O‘ahu, which is my cousin Maelia’s hālau [APPLAUSE]. And thank them for coming [APPLAUSE] and representing that part of our ‘ohana. So, the teaching continues, and the choreography continues.

SHELDON BROWN: So Uncle Hele, Auntie Lei, get your vocal chords ready. [CHUCKLES]

(24:29)

[‘OHANA LONG & ‘OHANA BROWN SING & PLAY: Opiopio; HULA DANCERS DANCE]

(26:40)

[APPLAUSE]

HHP: You know, gotta kiss, kiss, yeah, yeah, kiss, kiss; that’s how. [CHUCKLES] Even though my aunties and my mother uh, may not teach often any longer, and they have passed on to the next generation that responsibility, there are occasions that we sometimes beg and plead for them to come and teach. One such time happened not too long ago, when I told my Auntie Kahili, Auntie, you wanna come teach? And she goes, Sure. Oh, I was so happy. Sure. Because usually it’s like aah, but sure. So I was happy. So this evening, the choreography continues from my auntie to my students. And they do a song for a night like tonight. [APPLAUSE] So from my auntie to my students for a night like tonight and for you folks, Po Lailai. [CHEERS]

(28:22)

[‘OHANA LONG & ‘OHANA BROWN SING & PLAY: Po Lailai; HULA DANCERS DANCE]

(31:54)

[APPLAUSE]

HHP: You’re so kind. You know, in a family that has generations of traditions, we also must let the generations of traditions continue. In the Long ‘Ohana, we have dancers. In the Brown ‘Ohana, they have musicians. From the father to the son to the grandson, the tradition continues in music. If you don’t have Ikaika Brown’s CD, you need to get it. [LAUGHTER] I love that boy. You know, you know, when—when you da auntie and you go, I love that boy; he’s so cute. [LAUGHTER] I can do that. Shall I tell the Ikaika Brown story, Ikaika? No, Auntie. [LAUGHTER] I going, ’cause I got the mic. [CHUCKLES]

So much has—has this transpired between the ‘ohana that, fortunately for me, when I asked if they will play, they come; fortunately for me. There was this particular um, performance we had out at the Ritz Carlton that I asked them to come, and they came and so we’re standing in the back of the stage, and up walks Mr. Ikaika Brown in a tuxedo. And I said, Ikaika, we’re wearing Aloha clothes, and he goes, Yes, Auntie. And I said, Why are you in a tuxedo? And he goes, Tonight is my Junior Prom. [LAUGHTER] [APPLAUSE] And I said, And where’s your date? He says, At the prom. [LAUGHTER]

So, this is what families do for one another. [LAUGHTER] And now the girl knows, you wanna marry a musician, that’s what happens. [LAUGHTER] So this evening, we would like to also say that dancing continues in the ‘ohana; as my grandmother has choreographed, as my mother and my aunties have choreographed, as I have choreographed, so has the next generation. Oh, I get like this. So, for our next generation’s presentation, the choreography that was done by this generation, my sister Ulalia and my son Lono. Kipahulu.

[APPLAUSE]

(34:50)

[‘OHANA LONG & ‘OHANA BROWN SING & PLAY: Kipahulu; ULALIA & LONO DANCE HULA]

(39:35)

[APPLAUSE]

HHP: We are country folk who love our home. We love Maui. We will forever be Maui people. And so the—to close this evening, we’d like to sing a song that only the people of our district know; a song that is sung when the senior members of our district pass ... that reminds us of the love that we feel for Wai‘ehu. We teach it to our children. We teach it to our grandchildren. So we do not forget the love we have for Wai‘ehu. And so a song just from the country folk in Wai‘ehu.

[APPLAUSE]

(40:39)

[‘OHANA LONG & ‘OHANA BROWN SING & PLAY: Wailele Waiehu]

(42:12)

[APPLAUSE]

HHP: Mahalo and aloha.

[CHEERS/APPLAUSE]

[TEXT & PHOTO]

We thoroughly enjoyed working with Auntie Kahili from 2005 until her passing in 2012.

We were usually in her garage talking hula and ‘ohana. Sometimes she showed us some hula moves!

We’re so grateful to have documented her in this program with her ‘ohana. The Long Legacy live son!

Kahili Long Cummings

1918-2012

[END]