Papa Kuʻi ‘Ai
Leʻaleʻa kalakalai, manumanu ka loaʻa.

If you go at carving too casually, the outcome is nicked and choppy.

Don’t go at things too lightly.
Pū‘ulu Koa ‘10

Pū‘ulu Koa, a 7th grade team at Kapālama Campus, is engaging in an exciting, brand new project in making papa kuʻi ‘ai, boards for pounding kalo.
Pūʻulu Koa goes on regular scheduled fieldtrips to the loʻi, taro fields, at Punaluʻu.
In Papa Pili Kanaka (Social Studies), the haumāna read the legend of Hāloa which tells of how the kalo plant and the first Hawaiian man are brothers.
In Papa ʻEpekema (Science) the haumāna studied the huge and controversial issue of genetic engineering of kalo.
This year haumāna from Pūʻulu Koa will not only get to work in the loʻi, they will also pound kalo.

In order to do this they needed papa kuʻi ʻai, or boards for pounding the kalo.

Shane Arquette in action.
Hana Noʻeau

Haumāna are fortunate to have culturally skilled educators from Kamehameha’s Curriculum Support and Dissemination Division (CSD) to share their expertise in this hana noʻeau.

They employ educational methodology used by our kūpuna (ancestors) as they impart their ʻike (knowledge) on the Hawaiian art of carving.
Uncle Earl Kawaʻa grew up taro farming and fishing on Molokaʻi and is also a native speaker of Hawaiian.

Uncle Solomon Waineʻe from our Physical Plant helped us get the wood for the papa kuʻi ʻai.
Aʻo aku aʻo mai
Haumāna focus on the 7 Hoʻo…
as they participate in this project.

• Hoʻomākaukau (Prepare)
• Hoʻolohe (Listen)
• Hoʻonānā (Observe)
• Hoʻomaʻamaʻa (Practice)
• Hoʻopaʻa (Comprehend)
• Hoʻopuka (Exit Outcome)
• Hoʻomau (Perpetuate)
Hoʻomākaukau

(Prepare)

Haumāna prepared mind, body and spirit to be ready to learn with a positive attitude.

Haumāna prepared for our guest speakers by making ti-leaf lei for them.
Hoʻolohe (Listen)

Haumāna paid attention to Kawaʻa and listened intently to instructions and advice of the kumu as they were learning how to make modern koʻi (adze) and to kīmō, dub out the boards.
Hoʻonānā (Observe)

Haumāna observe what Aunty Edana Wong is teaching.
They learned by watching Mark Ellis demonstrate the 3 different cutting strokes of kīmō, kīmō kīmō and kīmō kūkū.
Hoʻomaʻamaʻa (Practice)

Aunty Ānuenue Punua got them started on a practice board.
Outside of class on the lower field, haumāna practiced chopping on practice boards before starting on the class papa kuʻi ʻai.
Hoʻopaʻa (Comprehend)

Haumāna hold fast to the ‘ike (knowledge). They may not be masters, but they have some ‘ike on how to make koʻi and papa kuʻi ‘ai.
There are 5 classes and each class worked on its own papa kuʻiʻai.
Hoʻopuka (Exit Outcome)

Haumāna worked on the final class papa kuʻi ʻai.
Hoʻomau (Perpetuate)

It is hoped that haumāna will continue this hana noʻeau and pass on their ‘ike.
Besides the 7 Hoʻo, Hawaiian values play an integral part of all aspects of this project.

The concepts of mālama and hōʻihi are practiced as care is given to the tools and each other.
One goal of this educational project is to show haumāna how we can be sustainable, such as making koʻi out of recycled materials, and having papa kuʻi ʻai instead of a food grinder for producing our poi.
Another big goal is to strengthen the ties of the ‘ohana through a Hawaiian cultural activity, such as the papa kuʻi ʻai.
Volunteer dads continue to carve the papa kuʻi ‘ai which will go back to the haumāna for sanding and polishing.
October 20, 2009 was the first of the five sessions with the Dads in carving papa kuʻi aʻi.

It was a wonderful, fun and successful learning experience!
There were 2 haumāna who came with their ‘ohana - Bryson Keola Kawai and Jordan Weall.

Both of them were able to help demonstrate the 3 main strokes.

Kani e, kani e, kani kīmō
Kani e, kani e, kīmō kīmō
Kani e, kani e, kīmō kūkū
Papa kui ai!
Kawaʻa shared his expertise on protocol, handling of the koʻi (adze) and making the papa. He mentioned that he wants us to use the koʻi instead of modern tools as we will have more of a connection with the papa and can simulate what our kūpuna did in this hana noʻeau. He told the Dads that the wood will tell them how to carve it, and they will move the angle of the papa or move their bodies to adjust to where they should strike.
Kawaʻa also told the Dads to work on the papa kuʻi ‘ai with good thoughts, not when they’re huhū. They should go to the papa with good intentions and not use it as a stress reliever. The Dads understand their kuleana with the papa and it is great to see that they have come to support their keiki and our kula. They have been working hard, sweating and very committed to this project.

Kawaʻa ma have really sparked their interest and everyone leaves the sessions on a high note.
The concept of kuleana are important as volunteer mākua make the commitment to be at every evening session and to hana.
The concept of aloha are manifested as mākua work on the papa kuʻi ʻai which will be donated to the school.
The concept of laulima is shown as haumāna and mākua work together on a common goal.
All will practice loina in working, such as to have a good attitude when working on the papa kuʻi ‘ai.
Here are the names of the volunteer Dads:

- Wallace Isaacs-Inn (dad of Chandlor)
- Robert Weall (dad of Jordan)
- Eric Aamodt (dad of Mia)
- Trevor Maunakea (dad of Cyrus)
- Rodney Saito (dad of Kainoa)
- Scott Paiva (dad of Codie)
- Hoku Keolanui (dad of Kapena)
- Solomon and Sonya Kawai (parents of Keola)
- Eric Chow (dad of Ethan)
- Mark Miller (dad of Lalea)
- Palani Judd (dad of Kalā)
- Blaise Hirayama (dad of Sierra)
- James Apo (dad of Jacob)
Here is Uncle Mark and Kawa‘a showing us what we need to do next.
This project has and continues to be a meaningful learning experience for haumāna and dads which will culminate in the pounding of the kalo at the end of the school year.

Aloha!