MALAMA HONUA
WORLDWIDE VOYAGE
SPONSORED BY HAWAIIAN AIRLINES
AND EDUCATION SPONSOR KAMEHAMEHA SCHOOLS
FROM THE PACIFIC TO THE WORLD

Traditional Voyaging in Modern Times

Just as the Polynesian voyagers populated the Pacific Islands, most cultures around the earth expanded outward over the sea. We all share a voyage of discovery in our past, and now the Polynesian Voyaging Society is leading a voyage of hope to bring us all together.

Ancient Voyaging

The blue expanse of the Pacific Ocean is unbroken except for a few small dots of terra firma. Thousands of years ago, it became the stage for one of the greatest feats in human history. Early Polynesian seafarers journeyed beyond the shores of home to explore more than 10 million square miles. Carrying in open canoes all provisions needed for the voyage and a new life, Polynesians discovered and settled on thousands of distant islands, some less than a mile in diameter. There were no maps, compasses, or global positioning systems (GPS). Instead, these intrepid wayfinders used stars, winds, waves, birds, weather and other patterns of nature to chart their course.

A Tradition Revived

The last of the Polynesian voyaging canoes, wa’a ku lua, disappeared in the 1400s. Then in 1973, artist and author Herb Kāne dreamed of building a double-hulled sailing canoe for the first time in centuries. The idea brought together people of diverse backgrounds and professions to form the Polynesian Voyaging Society (PVS).

On March 8, 1975, PVS launched its first vessel—Hōkūleʻa—from the sacred shores of Hakipu‘u, Kualoa in Kāne‘ohe Bay on the island of O‘ahu. Its design was a replica based on sketches of ancient canoes of the Pacific Islands. The successful arrival of Hōkūleʻa to Tahiti in 1976 via non-instrument navigation marked a renewal of traditional voyaging and wayfinding.

Hōkūleʻa continues to bring people together from around the world. The winds of the Pacific Ocean have carried her over 140,000 miles and to several different countries during the past 40 years. Hōkūleʻa is more than a voyaging canoe—she represents a desire shared by the people of Hawai‘i, the Pacific, and the world to protect our most cherished values and places from disappearing.

Navigating the World

Today, a new generation of navigators is using the same traditional knowledge and techniques that steered their ancestors before them. Hōkūleʻa is now joined by her sister canoe Hi’iaka, launched by PVS in 2012. Together the two vessels will travel 47,000 nautical miles to 85 ports and 26 nations on their Mālama Honua* Worldwide Voyage sponsored by Hawaiian Airlines. The voyage, which started in 2013 and will continue through 2017, is a means to engage all of Island Earth — practicing how to live sustainably while sharing Polynesian culture, learning from the past and from each other, creating global relationships, and discovering the wonders of this precious place we call home.

* Mālama Honua is a Hawaiian phrase that means “to care for our island home.”

As the Polynesian Voyaging Society celebrates 40 years, it launches the Mālama Honua Worldwide Voyage, one of many seafaring expeditions in the long and storied maritime history of the Polynesian culture.

1200 B.C.-1200 A.D.

Polynesian progressively settle islands throughout the Pacific Ocean from Sāmoa to Rapa Nui (Easter Island), the eastern-most island of the Polynesian Triangle.

1778

British explorer Captain James Cook arrives in Hawai‘i. Eighteen-year-old Mau Piailug is initiated as a master navigator in a pono ceremony on the island of Satawai.

1950

The Polynesian Voyaging Society is founded by artist Herb Kawainui Kane, anthropologist Ben Finney, and sailor Charles Tommy Holmes.

1973

Herb Kawainui Kāne, anthropologist Ben Finney, and sailor Charles Tommy Holmes.
VOYAGING 101

Polynesian navigators, or wayfinders, were advanced in observing stars, clouds, seabird behavior, ocean swells, and other natural patterns to guide them across vast ocean expanses. Hōkūleʻa and Hikianalia will be navigated using these traditional techniques during the Mālama Honua Worldwide Voyage.

HŌKŪLEʻA
LAUNCHED: 1975  CREW CAPACITY: 12-14  LENGTH: 62'  WIDTH: 20'

The voyaging canoe Hōkūleʻa is named after the “star of gladness,” also known as Arcturus, that marks the latitude of Hawai‘i when the star is at its highest point in the sky. Hōkūleʻa’s twin hulls allow it to handle large swells and recover easily in the troughs of waves, and its triangular canvas sails can harness winds of up to 20 knots.

Today, Hōkūleʻa combines traditional elements with new materials, such as fiberglass hulls, canvas sails and synthetic lashings, for unparalleled strength and seaworthiness. Hōkūleʻa will travel over 47,000 nautical miles during the four years of the Worldwide Voyage.

HIKIANALIA
LAUNCHED: 2012  CREW CAPACITY: 12-16  LENGTH: 72'  WIDTH: 23'

Hikianalia is the Hawaiian name for the star, also known as Spica, that rises together with the star Hōkūleʻa in Hawai‘i. The vessel combines the latest eco-friendly technology with the heritage of the voyaging tradition. Each of its hulls contains an electric motor powered by sunlight, resulting in a zero carbon footprint.

During the Worldwide Voyage, Hikianalia’s crew will conduct six ongoing science research projects and promote sustainability and conservation through educational programs and outreach.

Stars
The “star compass” is a central part of navigation. Navigators memorize the positions of over 200 stars and watch the rising and setting of stars to help determine the location of the canoe in relation to the destination. Marked grooves in the vessel are lined up with stars near the horizon to provide a point of reference and help maintain orientation to the course.

Clouds
Navigators observe the shape, height, and color of clouds for directional and weather cues. Clouds also tend to accumulate over land in specific patterns, which navigators look for as they sail.

Seabird Behavior
The behavior of seabirds provides important clues on the direction of nearby islands and atolls. Experienced navigators can distinguish land-based seabirds that travel away from the coast at dawn to feed and return to their nests at night, indicating the direction of land.

Ocean Swells
Ocean swells are generated from a great distance, and they help the navigator maintain orientation and determine direction when celestial bodies are not visible. In the Pacific, the northeast trade winds generate a northeast swell and the southeast trade winds create a southeast swell.

Nainoa Thompson is the President of the Polynesian Voyaging Society and a master in the traditional Polynesian art of non-instrument navigation, inspired by his father and by numerous kūpuna (elders). Nainoa has dedicated his life to exploring the universal values of voyaging – vision, self-discipline, preparation, courage, risk-taking and the spirit of aloha to bind a crew on arduous journeys.

Long voyages have taught Nainoa to appreciate the Hawaiian concept of ‘mālama’ or care-taking. “Our ancestors learned that if they took care of their canoe and each other,” he has often told his crew, “they would arrive safely at their destination.”

Astronaut Lacy Veach, who observed the Hawaiian Islands from space, helped Nainoa understand ‘mālama’ from a planetary perspective. “The best place to think about the fate of our planet is right here in our islands,” Veach told Nainoa.

From all these teachings comes the next great voyage of exploration – the Mālama Honua Worldwide Voyage to care for Island Earth.

Learn more about Nainoa and other crewmembers at: http://www.hokulea.com/category/crew/.

- By Sam Low, author of Hawai‘i’s Hawaiian Renaissance

Nainoa Thompson
Hōkūleʻa
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Hōkūleʻa
Hikianalia
Hōkūleʻa voyages to New Zealand, venturing outside of tropical waters for the first time.

Hawai‘i astronaut Lacy Veach, who loved Hawaiian voyaging canoes, travels to space on Columbia.

Hōkūleʻa technical illustration: Dave Swann, courtesy Polynesian Voyaging Society
The mission of the Mālama Honua Worldwide Voyage is to navigate toward a healthy and sustainable future for ourselves, our home—the Hawaiian Islands—and our Island Earth through voyaging and new ways of learning. Our core message is to mālama (care for) Island Earth—our natural environment, children and all humankind. Below are some highlights of the many places that the vessels Hōkūleʻa and Hikianalia will visit during their global journey, including marine protected areas, sites of historical and cultural importance, and population centers. Track the voyage at www.hokulea.com/track-the-voyage.

He wāʻa he moku, he moku he wāʻa.

The canoe is an island, the island is a canoe.
Port stops
Engaging Communities
Around the World

A fundamental objective of the Worldwide Voyage is to engage people in its conservation mission. Each stop will be vitally important in fostering a global society based on the values of mālama honua — caring for Island Earth. Since every country, every city, and every community is unique, the experiences at each port of call will be shaped by the cultures, values, and history of each place.

Through the activities will vary from port to port, they will share common themes that encourage us to take better care of our Island Earth and remind us that we are all connected by the ocean. In addition, each community will have opportunities to see themselves through the eyes of the voyagers by going behind the scenes to learn about traditional methods of seafaring and to get a glimpse of daily life onboard the vessels.

Example Activities in Port:
- Canoe tours of Hōkūle‘a and Hikianalia
- Dockside exhibits and virtual field trips
- Service-learning experiences
- Scientific research projects
- Youth leadership summits and education workshops
- Community gatherings and discussions

Through such activities, as these, dockside communities will learn that we are literally sustained by the ocean from the food we eat to the air we breathe, with even the smallest marine creatures supporting our survival. Community members will also engage with the crew in Learning Journeys, which are shared experiences with a person, group, project or place to learn through service. Along the way, crewmembers will exchange stories with each community they visit, in hopes that this collective wisdom will inspire new global lessons.

Stop Highlight: Tahiti & Ra‘iātea

The Polynesian Voyaging Society and Hōkūle‘a have a long relationship with the people and places of Tahiti and Ra‘iātea. These are the largest and second largest islands, respectively, in the French Polynesia island group called the Society Islands. Papeete Harbor in Tahiti is the site that Hōkūle‘a sailed to in her first voyage in 1976. Ra‘iātea is a site where navigators historically met to exchange knowledge on wayfinding. While visiting these islands in 2014, PVS paid tribute to the founding teachers that made the Worldwide Voyage possible: Mau Piailug, Eddie Aikau, Lacy Veach, Herb Kāne, Pinky Thompson, Will Kyselka and others.

MEET THE CREW:

Haunani Kane

Crewmembers for the Mālama Honua Worldwide Voyage range in age, supporting the cultural perspective of collaboration across generations. Haunani Kane is one of the youngest on the crew. Her hometown is Kailua, O‘ahu, and she currently lives in a small town at the foot of the Olo‘omana Mountain.

Early on, Haunani said that she just ‘really enjoyed being on the canoe and liked coming down to help and everyday.’ Once she realized the importance of the work, she decided to share the knowledge and expertise she was gaining with others, especially young people. For instance, in addition to her navigational training, Haunani is helping to lead science projects conducted during the voyage to benefit multiple communities.

When asked to describe her experience as a crew member, she answers ‘(as) an indigenous person, your answers are usually attached to some sort of experience or doing something that will benefit their ‘ohana or their homes or their people. I think when you have a perspective that I’m doing this to understand my home, or I’m doing this to help my family, I think it’s just a little different.’

Learn more about Haunani and other crewmembers at: http://www.hokulea.com/category/crewmembers-at/
Join our “virtual canoe” at www.hokulea.com and find out about the many ways you can be involved with the Mālama Honua Worldwide Voyage, sponsored by Hawaiian Airlines.

Google Hangouts
Join the crew of Hōkūleʻa and Hikianalia in real time as they voyage around the world. Upcoming dates and times for Google hangouts can be found on the “Learning Center” tab of www.hokulea.com.

Voyage Videos
Regular video updates will be available from the decks of Hōkūleʻa and Hikianalia, including crewmember profiles, navigator reports, and port activities around the world.

Ask the Crew
Want to learn more about daily life at sea aboard Hōkūleʻa and Hikianalia? Visit “Ask the Crew a Question” at http://learningcenter.hokulea.com.

Share Your Story
How do you take care of our Island Earth? Submit your story online, see it on the map, and connect with others around the world building positive solutions by visiting http://learningcenter.hokulea.com.

Keep Us Sailing!
Pilates Voyaging Society deeply appreciates the individual grants, donations and partnerships that help us perpetuate voyaging and sail around the globe for the sake of our oceans and environment. To donate, go to www.hokulea.com, email donate@pvshawaii.org, or call (808) 842-1101.

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Sign up online for the Polynesian Voyaging Society E-Newsletter to receive updates about the Worldwide Voyage.

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Wow. Simplicity, strength and sustainability in one sailing trip. Sounds like a fantastic adventure! I look forward to reading about their journeys.
- Chris Sunflower

Keep Us Sailing!
Sending you strength in this journey! Safe travels! Huge mahalos for taking this adventure on! I’m so excited to share the trip with my students at Princess Nahienaena in Maui!
-Jamie Green

I can’t tell you enough how much all of you mean to my students and me. There is not a day that goes by that someone in my class does not mention the Hokulea.
-Cheryl Ann

The Mālama Honua Worldwide Voyage is launched from Hilo, Hawai’i.
PVS celebrates its 40th birthday.

By the time PVS’s latest voyage is complete, it will have touched many people across the world, teaching some and reminding others that we are all connected via our one ocean and that we need to work together to care for it—and, by extension, each other.
“We are voyaging because what is happening to climate, ecology, and the chemistry of the earth is happening to all of us. There are stories out there of solutions, hope, and leadership. These stories can build a sustainable future, when we come together to protect what we love. That is what Hōkūleʻa has always done.”

- Nainoa Thompson
Polynesian Voyaging Society President & Master Navigator