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Moanalua Gardens Foundation Announces New Hybrid 46th Annual Prince Lot Hula Festival

<u>Honolulu, Hawaiʻi</u>

This year's new hybrid 46th Annual Prince Lot Hula Festival will include a live inperson celebration on Saturday, July 15 from 9 am to 4 pm at the Frank F. Fasi Civic Grounds, Honolulu Hale and a two-hour television special on KHON2 in the Fall, announced presenter Moanalua Gardens Foundation (MGF).

Established by MGF in 1978, the festival honors Prince Lot Kapuāiwa, who helped reprise hula in Moanalua and reigned as Kamehameha V from 1863 to 1872. This year's theme is Ola ka Hula I ka Po'e Hula, Hula Lives Through Hula People.

Twelve hālau hula from O'ahu, Maui and Hawai'i Island will be featured showing a mixture of kahiko (traditional) and 'auana (contemporary) dances throughout the day. The festival will include a Hawaiian-inspired craft fair, cultural demonstrations and popular local foods. Admission is free, however, a button donation is encouraged to help defray event costs.

MGF's 2023 *Malia Kau Award* recipient Kumu Hula Pohai Souza, founder and Kumu Hula of Hālau Hula Kamamolikolehua will be honored during Opening Ceremonies.

The two-hour virtual festival will also be live streamed globally on MGF's website and KHON2. Rebroadcasts will be shown on KHON2 and sister stations KHII and CW. It will premiere at a later date on MGF's YouTube channel, along with additional vignettes not included in the television program.

7-Eleven Hawai'i is this year's Presenting Sponsor. Other sponsors include the Office of Hawaiian Affairs, Bank of Hawai'i, The Queen's Health System, Matson Navigation, CARE Hawai'i, Royal Hawaiian Center, Pasha Hawaii and American Savings Bank. Funders include Department of the Interior, Office of Native Hawaiian Relations; National Endowment for the Arts, Hawai'i State Foundation on Culture and the Arts, Kennedy Center Arts Across America, and the City and County of Honolulu.

A nonprofit organization founded in 1970, MGF is committed to preserving and perpetuating the history, native culture and environment of Hawai'i through stewardship of Kamananui Valley and celebration of the Prince Lot Hula Festival. The festival is entirely supported through grants, sponsorships, and donations. Please give at <u>www.moanaluagardensfoundation.org/donate</u>.