

We come from water.
Even our bones keep it close,
so we carry our beginnings
everywhere. Wai—fresh
water full of our stories. When you
drink, you swallow the rain
of your grandparents. When you
stand beneath a sky let loose,
clouds bursting with wealth,
you know the water
of your grandchildren. The waters
for their food, for their thirst, for their land,
the waters carried in their bones
full of our love for them today.



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Aiko Yamashiro
Executive Director



In January 2022, we hosted a community Try Think discussion and poetry workshop to reflect and share about the ongoing water crisis at the Red Hill fuel storage facility on O‘ahu. People of different ages and backgrounds joined together to think and talk about our connection to wai, to fresh water and its biological, environmental, cultural, spiritual, political, and personal meanings. At that event, we learned that it takes one to two generations for water to filter through the strata and enter our aquifer. In other words, the clear sweet water we drink today was the mist and rain that kept our parents and grandparents company.

We wrote a group poem together that day, and here are some lines from it:

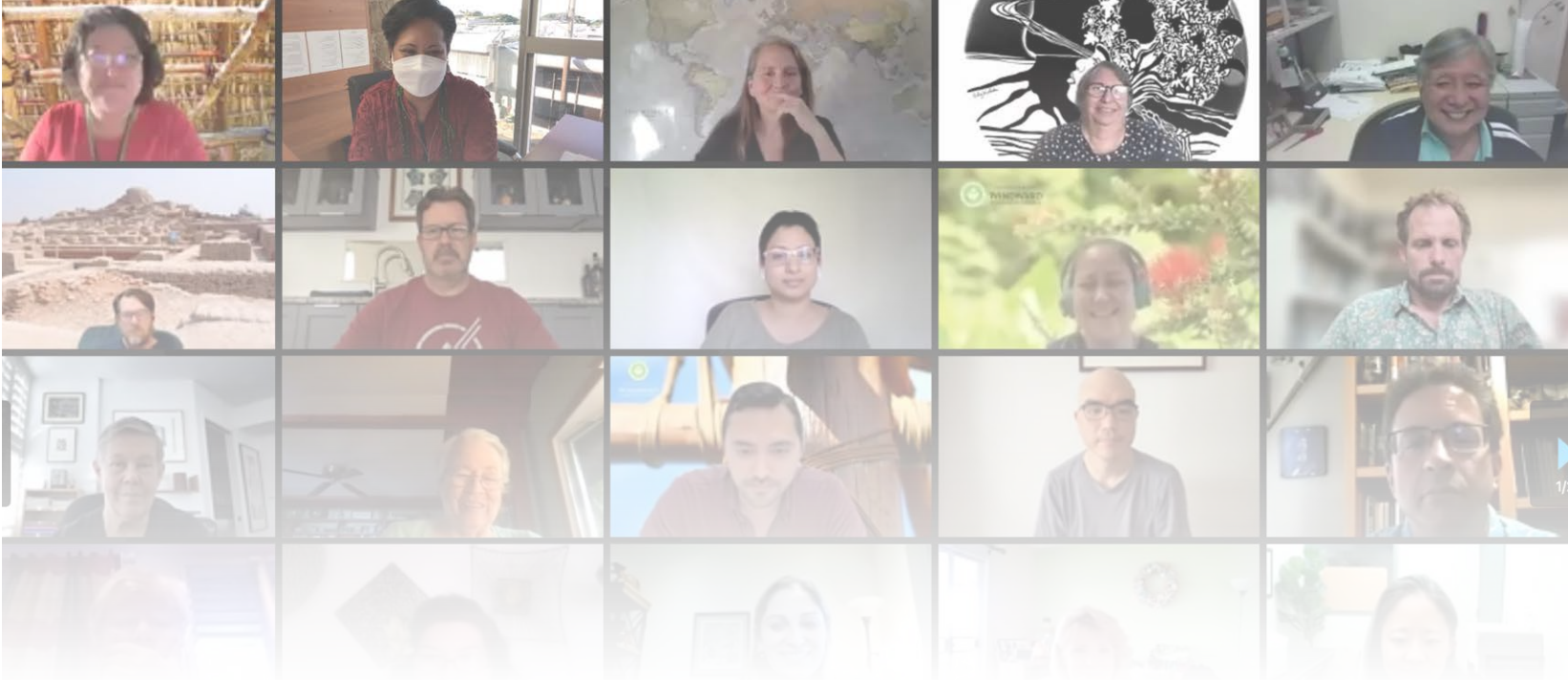
Wai connects me to those I can no longer see, can no longer hear.
Wai connects me to tomorrow—to hope for the future.
Wai connects me to you, to us.

People entered that event feeling angry, worried, and tired, and left still feeling those things, but also feeling connected and inspired by the stories, hopes, and feelings we shared together. The humanities offer another way into the really hard things—environmental degradation, racism and colonialism, poverty and incarceration, violence. They can help us think more deeply, broadly, and compassionately.

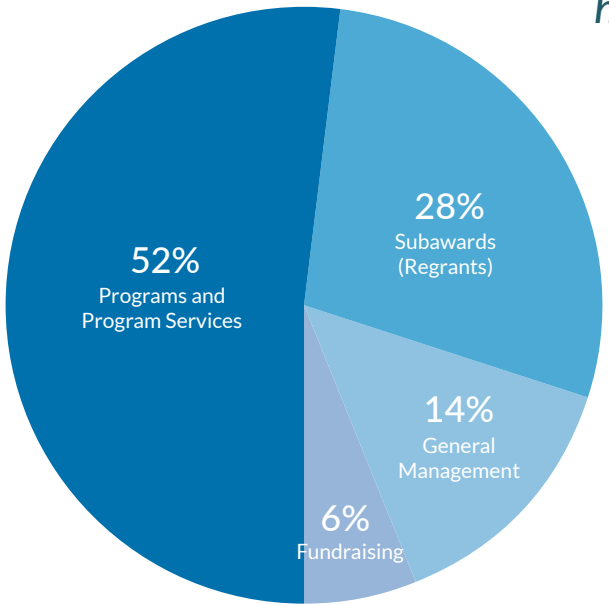
The challenges of 2021 were an opportunity to learn even more about how the humanities can strengthen the connections that make our communities more resilient and our lives more meaningful. We are very proud of the new growth of our programs and very proud to support such a vibrant and necessary statewide humanities community.

Thank you for your stories, your enduring support, for being the many sources of water that make the land live.

Aiko Yamashiro, Executive Director
Mary Therese Perez Hattori, Board Chair



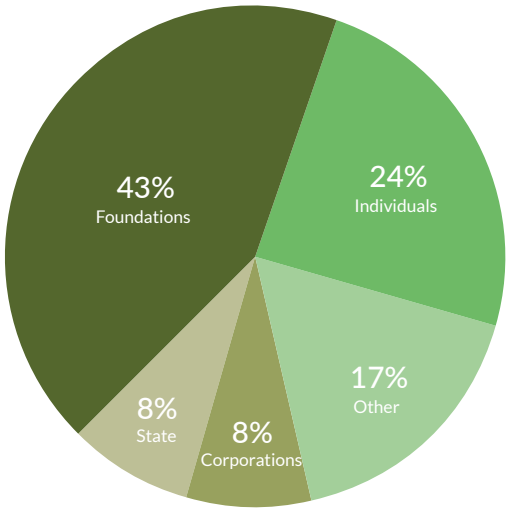
506,243 people attended/viewed 280 public humanities programs in fiscal year 2021



FUNCTIONAL EXPENSES

\$586,166 Programs and Program Services (52%)
\$317,707 Subawards (Regrants) (28%)
\$145,000 General Management (14%)
\$71,209 Fundraising (6%)

\$1,120,082 Total Functional Expenses



OTHER REVENUE

\$84,200 Foundations (43%)
\$46,690 Individuals (24%)
\$32,897 Other (17%)
\$16,300 Corporations (8%)
\$14,000 State (8%)

\$194,087 Total Non-NEH Revenue

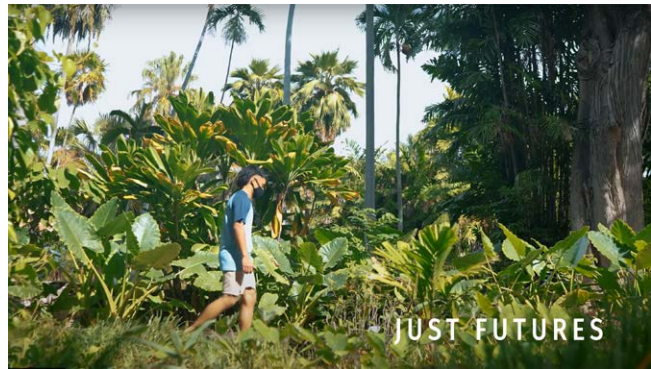
\$960,111 NEH Revenue (83%)

TOTAL REVENUE: \$1,154,198

\$520,159 volunteer time and other in-kind support

*All figures are unaudited and represent fiscal year November 1, 2020 - October 31, 2021.

COLLABORATIVE PARTNERSHIPS



We featured youth leaders and felt galvanized by the clarity and strength of young people.



Poetry and music taught us how to bring our whole selves into community work.



22 virtual events,
and 42,494 views online

Why It Matters was a national civic education initiative funded by the Mellon Foundation and the Federation of State Humanities Councils. In Hawai'i we worked with the King Kamehameha V Judiciary History Center, Kāhuli Leo Le'a, Civic Education Council, and Chaminade History Center to create inspiring civic spaces around music, poetry, culture, history, and contemporary issues of voting, voice, and justice.

“There are so many youth out there who are so excited about taking on these issues and so excited about participating in a political process.... [By the end of the youth summit we organized] they had confidence in being able to talk to their state legislators and say ‘hey, we have these issues, you said that you promised to be willing to listen to us, this is our voice, let’s put this into action.’”

– Peyton Gillespie, Maui High School Senior and Just Futures Youth Summit Co-organizer

MAHALO TO OUR 2021 COLLABORATIVE PARTNERS

Center for Oral History at UH Mānoa
Chaminade History Center
Children’s Literature Hawai’i
Hawai’i International Film Festival
Kokua Hawai’i Anniversary Hui
Tony Quagliano International Poetry Fund

In 2021 we worked with organizations to put on exciting and meaningful oral history events, literature events, discussion and film events. Check out our website and newsletter for more on all these projects.

COMMUNITY GRANTS



243,030 attendees,
viewers, listeners of
grantee humanities
programs in fiscal year
2021.

HIHumanities has been awarding grants since 1973. Local grant awards are made possible from the National Endowment for the Humanities. In fiscal year 2021, we funded \$120,000 for six Public Humanities and six Preservation and Access Grants.

See our website for our complete list of public programs and preservation grants.

SUSTAINING THE HUMANITIES THROUGH THE AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN (SHARP)

In Fall 2021, we did our largest community grantmaking in recent history, and distributed \$629,140 of American Rescue Plan federal aid funds to 35 organizations throughout the state.

SHARP General Operating Costs Grantees			
Bishop Museum	Honolulu	O’ahu	\$20,000
Bamboo Ridge Press	Honolulu	O’ahu	\$9,000
Ceeds of Peace	Honolulu	O’ahu	\$18,407
Congregation of the Sacred Hearts U.S. Province	Kāne’ohe	O’ahu	\$16,697
Daughters of Hawai’i	Honolulu	O’ahu	\$20,000
East Hawai’i Cultural Council	Hilo	Hawai’i	\$20,000
Hawai’i International Film Festival	Honolulu	O’ahu	\$20,000
Hawai’i United Okinawa Association	Waipahu	O’ahu	\$20,000
Hawaiian Mission Houses Historic Site and Archives	Honolulu	O’ahu	\$20,000
Historic Hawai’i Foundation	Honolulu	O’ahu	\$20,000
Hui No’eau	Makawao	Maui	\$20,000
Japanese Cultural Center of Hawai’i	Honolulu	O’ahu	\$20,000
Kaua’i Museum Association, Ltd.	Līhu’e	Kaua’i	\$20,000
Kauluakalana	Kailua	O’ahu	\$19,321
Kōkua Kalihi Valley Comprehensive Family Services	Honolulu	O’ahu	\$20,000
Kona Historical Society	Kealahou	Hawai’i	\$20,000
Kua’āina Ulu ‘Auamo	Kāne’ohe	O’ahu	\$20,000
Kualoa-He’eia Ecumenical Youth Program	Kāne’ohe	O’ahu	\$20,000
Lāna’i Culture and Heritage Center	Lāna’i City	Lāna’i	\$18,000
Mānoa Heritage Center	Honolulu	O’ahu	\$20,000
Maunaloa Fishpond Heritage Center	Honolulu	O’ahu	\$20,000
Moanalua Gardens Foundation	Honolulu	O’ahu	\$20,000
Papahāna Kūāloa	Kāne’ohe	O’ahu	\$18,276
The Friends of ‘Iolani Palace	Honolulu	O’ahu	\$20,000
The Lāhaina Restoration Foundation	Lāhaina	Maui	\$19,991

SHARP Humanities Programming Grantees			
Civic Education Council	Honolulu	O’ahu	\$14,970
Dancers Unlimited Inc	Honolulu	O’ahu	\$15,000
Hāna Arts	Hana	Maui	\$15,000
Honoka’a Hongwanji Mission	Honoka’a	Hawai’i	\$15,000
Kalihi-Pālana Culture & Arts Society, Inc.	Honolulu	O’ahu	\$15,000
Ka ‘Ohana O Kalaupapa	Kalaupapa	Moloka’i	\$15,000
Mālama Loko Ea Foundation	Hale’iwa	O’ahu	\$14,798
Maui Arts & Cultural Center	Kahului	Maui	\$15,000
Read To Me International Foundation	Honolulu	O’ahu	\$15,000
The Merwin Conservancy	Ha’ikū	Maui	\$14,680

“This pandemic has emphasized efforts to communicate, promote, and perpetuate our cultural heritage through innovative paths that include pivoting to digitally archiving our histories so that our stories and experiences can be preserved for future generations to appreciate.”

– Hawai’i United Okinawa Association



Remembering the 2019 Okinawan Festival. We look forward to returning to in person celebrations in 2022.



HAWAI'I HISTORY DAY & K-12 HUMANITIES PROGRAMS



Keilani Kajiyama Tinkham: The Rhythm of Resilience: Communication through the Bon Dance, Performance



A reminder of times before the COVID pandemic: Hawai'i History Day youth take a leap at the National Fair.

HAWAI'I HISTORY DAY YOUTH COUNCIL

In 2021, we piloted our first Youth Council—bringing together Hawai'i History Day students to create their own community events for their peers, inspiring leadership and youth voice.

HAWAI'I HISTORY DAY COMPETITION

Keilani Kajiyama Tinkham (Lā'ie Elementary) took home the National History Day gold medal. Students from Mililani High School and Kalākaua Middle School were featured in the Smithsonian African American History Museum and the National Museum of American History.



Visit our website for stories about our 2021 Hawai'i History Day Honoree, Mary Kawena Pukui, and a short documentary tribute by filmmaker Sancia Shiba Nash. We are honored to share here photographs of Mary Kawena Pukui's grandson, La'akea Suganuma with his family—all wearing Hawai'i History Day pins!



Our K-12 Humanities Teacher Workshops focused on equity in the classroom and powerful histories not often told.

“Growing up, I didn't have many opportunities to learn about my people's history in classrooms, which made it seem like our histories weren't as important as the ones in textbooks. Nakem! is so important to me, because it can help teachers bring Filipino history into the classroom. Our stories are part of Hawai'i's history and they connect us to each other.”

—Shannon Cristobal,
Director of Hawai'i History Day and
K-12 Humanities Programs



Long time Hawai'i History Day supporter and Moloka'i Public Librarian, Diane Mokuau, was featured in our Mālama Our History District Video for Moloka'i

“My three sons went to high school and did Hawai'i History Day and learned a lot. They really did not like social studies. But working with the HHD teachers changed their way of thinking. My son, who hated social studies, really got into it and his brothers followed his example. And they are all in the natural science field now that they are grown up; one is an engineer, one is in vet school. They all said HHD helped. They have become socially aware scientists!”

—Fumiko Yamada, HHD parent and Mililani Librarian.

Nakem! Filipino & Filipino American History, Culture, & Food In Hawai'i Student and Teacher Workshop



Our Nakem! Teacher Workshop series was the inspired work of our very own Shannon Cristobal.

MAHALO TO OUR 2021 HAWAI'I HISTORY DAY COMMUNITY SPONSORS OF SCHOLARSHIPS AND AWARDS

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Pacific Tsunami Museum
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Try Think grew out of our 20 years of teaching humanities classes in the correctional facilities. It is a conversation program that creates a safe space to practice listening and sharing around important and challenging topics. People are invited to transform through trying to understand ourselves and each other more deeply.

March 2021 - Oct 2021
550+ attendees

Strengthening community through genuine conversation

Each voice matters

TRY THINK: HULIHIA

In 2021, we came together in thirty-four Try Think community conversations with thirteen new facilitators exploring and envisioning what our future here in Hawai'i could be. Using essays collected in the *The Value of Hawai'i 3: Hulihiā, the Turning* as jumping off points, as a community, we challenged the future of education and criminal justice, we considered the limitations of our natural resources, we emphasized the need to innovate, and to connect this innovation with our ancestors, with our cultures, with our art, and with our stories.

“What happens when we stay for the difficult conversations? We give each other the space to connect. The permission and invitation to connect.

With this invitation, I will not ask more of you than I am willing to give myself, and I am always willing to go first, even when it's uncomfortable. Hopefully, we can build the trust that we need in that moment to to see one another as necessary to each other.

We do not have to agree, in fact, it might be more interesting if we don't.

I hope you will share parts of our conversations with others. I promise to do the same; let's invite more moments of connection inside and outside all the spaces we live.

This is what we aspire to. This is Try Think.”

—Rob Chang, Director of Reading and Discussion Programs

MAHALO TO ALL OUR TRY THINK PARTNERS

ACLU-Hawai'i
Ceeds of Peace
Children's Literature Hawai'i
Department of Public Safety
George and Marguerite Simson
Biographical Research Center
Hawai'i Alliance for Community-Based
Economic Development
Hawai'i Community Foundation
Hawai'i State Public Library System
- Kea'au Public and School Library
- Wai'anae Public Library
- Waipahu Public Library
Institute for Climate and Peace
King Kamehameha V Judiciary History Center
Matsunaga Institute for Peace
Nā Mea Hawai'i / Native Books
Pacific Islands Development Program
Qwaves
The Pōpolo Project
Waiwai Collective

FEEDBACK FROM TRY THINK EVENTS:

“I really appreciated each person who shared their story—really felt everyone's commitment to community and uplifting each other.”

“Thank you so much for such an exhilarating conversation. I enjoyed listening to other people's opinions and perspectives on various questions.”

“Start in your community first, find your passion and do whatever and whenever you can. You will find that each of our ahupua'a have something that is the same and different. How can the mana'o from another's ahupua'a be a solution for your ahupua'a?”



MAHALO NUI TO OUR GENEROUS DONORS
(January 1, 2021 – December 31, 2021) for the time,
love, and support you share with us.

Every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of this list. If we have made an error, please let us know so we can correct our records, email Robin Jones at rjones@hihumanities.org.

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We're grateful for a 3-year gift from Matson Giving for Hawai'i History Day. Matson is a historic, kama'aina company, having served Hawai'i continuously since 1882, for six generations.

Matson supports the communities in which their employees live and work and values the unique history education of Hawai'i History Day and our History Day teachers.



We are grateful for the steady support of the State Foundation on Culture and Arts for the creative youth history program Hawai'i History Day. The SFCA's mission is to promote, perpetuate, preserve, and encourage culture and the arts as central to the quality of life of the people of Hawai'i.



Welcome to our new sponsor the Hawaiian Electric Industries Charitable Foundation. Through collaboration, partnerships and neighbors helping neighbors, HEI strengthens our Hawai'i communities and strives to serve as a catalyst for a better Hawai'i. Their giving is inspired by Nelson Mandela's words "Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world."

Quote on Cover:

This quote is from "Aia i hea ka wai a Kāne?" We had the gift of learning more about this oli from Shelley Muneoka in a Try Think discussion and poetry workshop reflecting on the Red Hill water crisis.

Nathaniel Emerson collected this chant and it can be found in *Unwritten Literature of Hawai'i, the Sacred Songs of the Hula*.

AIA I HEA KA WAI A KĀNE?

E ui aku ana au iā 'oe,
Aia i hea ka Wai a Kāne?
Aia i lalo, i ka honua, i ka Wai hū,
I ka wai kau a Kāne me Kanaloa—
He waipuna, he wai e inu,
He wai e mana, he wai e ola,
E ola nō, ea!

*One question I ask of you:
Where flows the water of Kāne?
Deep in the ground, in the gushing spring,
In the ducts of Kāne and Loa,
A well spring of water, to quaff,
A water of magic power—The water of life!
Life! O give us this life!*

