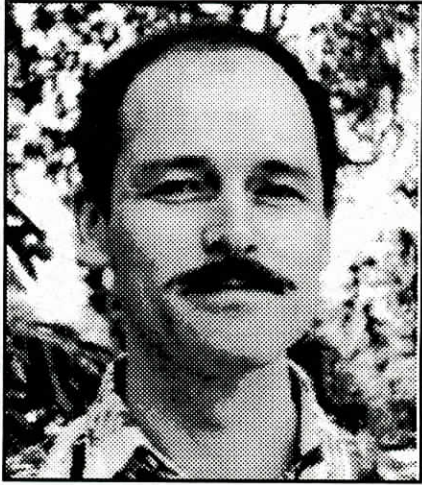


Hula

Holoua Stender spoke, thought and lived Hawaiian when others were adapting to a changing society. His roots were securely fastened in the heritage his great-grandparents and grandparents provided. The Holoua family had lived for a generation on

Kalawahine before leasing land in the newly formed Kewalo Homestead. Holoua's days there were opened and closed in family gatherings of song accompanied by 'ukulele and prayer.



Teachers positively influenced Holoua and since the second grade he wanted to teach. He studied hula seriously as a young man, graduating from Keli'i Tau'a and the University of Hawai'i at the same time. He hasn't farmed the family land on the Big Island yet because Kamehameha Schools asked him to teach hula a couple of months before he even got his diploma. Holoua has shared hula and the Hawaiian language with a school full of young part-Hawaiians for sixteen years. Holoua wholeheartedly passes on the values learned from his kupuna that have given his life purpose and meaning.

Hula

Helen Hoakalei Kamau'u moved to Upper Kewalo forty-three years ago and became her aunt's successor. This gave her time to learn the ancient hula and chants from her Aunt 'Iolani with whom she performed for 32 years. She traces her heritage back to the court of King Kalakaua for whom her great-grandmother and the sister danced. Hoakalei has carried on this tradition of hula and has effectively been a "keeper of the culture".

Hoakalei made learning "fun and games" for her own children as well as for those she teaches today by connecting it to friends and family. She nurtures a love for Hawaiian arts by teaching one to prepare for performances the moment one gathers adorning plants.

*Whatever your
hand finds to do,
do it with
all your might...*

Ecclesiastes 9:10

Hoakalei has performed on almost every continent, trained others throughout the state and taught at universities. Yet, she still keeps a whirlwind schedule of teaching hula in schools and her own halau.