

I took private lessons from Puanani in Honolulu . Some songs that I wanted to Learn. Same thing with George Naope, I took some implements and some Hula.

I took privately with them. I wanted to teach . First I started with my own Children My daughter, then I had my neighbor's children , so I felt if they can learn from me I can teach others. So I had my friends come over. Then I started here at my home. From 20 children, it grew from that. I taught for about 5 years Then I had my first recital. My class is smaller now because I am in the kupuna program so I have less time . I use to have couple hundred children, but now I cut down I always loved dancing specially hula , my father wanted me to study instead of dancing because he said Hula will not take me anywhere, so I use to, hide to take lessons. My grandmother spoke hawaiian so I use to speak with her When I was young, but as I grew older we spoke more english and forgot the hawaiian .

I call myself a Hula teacher , but Kumu has the same meaning. In my teaching i try to instill the style i learn from my teachers , my kahiko comes from Emma , but very little . Rose Kuamoo was our neighbor, so i use to go to her house to learn.

I enjoy to teach my children and see that they are enjoying what they are doing. . I used to uniki my first uniki was in 1964 , but I stopped that. They have to learn at least 2 or 3 years , one kahiko one auwana, implements number before they can have a certificate. Some of our young teachers of to day I can see they are not ready. But I cannot say much because when I opened mine I was very new too, and everybody learn from their mistakes, and you accomplish yourself by learning all the time.

Language is important . You can interpret your song, your expression, feeling. Also hawaiian culture, with Hula you learn respect.

Kahiko to day is too perfect, it is not like I used to know , simple , with feeling.

When I was small Hula was for entertainment. to day is very different. I don't go to competition I teach ohana style. I even have my grandchildren learning with me. I take my children to perform at Ala Moana, Pearl Ridge and Luau .

I serve as a judge at Keiki Hula in 1984. For me it was hard to pick up the best they all look so good but you can really tell the outstanding ones.

In my time you are told not to speak unless you are spoken to, otherwise you stay quiet. To day's children are out spoken , very aggressive. I have been with children for so long I adjust myself with this new generation.

I always start my class with basics steps then I teach auwana . Later I teach them Kahiko. My children and adults like to dance at party for entertainment.

I do not advertise I have children from Family , friends , children of my adult's class, even grandchildren.

I teach old hawaiian songs , songs about places, islands, love songs, songs that was made before the children were born so they can learn about them.

Some of my students are teaching in the mainland. I am really proud when they ask me if they can teach a song that I had taught them, That is like part of me , and I don't mind if they change a little , it is OK with me

I taught thousands of children in schools and in my home some of them I taught their

mothers , the children and now their grandchildren .

Definetely the hula of to day is differnt, But the children of to day also have different ideas, and sometimes they get easily bored with the old way, so to keep them interesting you have to create new ideas. The steps of to day are faster.

I also work as a kupuna. The first thing I try to share with the children is the meaning of Aloha , because many of these children do not have much Aloha at home. Some parents , aloha for them is materials things, and all the child need is a hug or a little of their time.....