

JUL 14 1982



June 30, 1982

'Ano'ai Wendell Silva,

I am honored to have been asked to contribute my mana'o to the directory of hula resources in Hawaii.

I am Kawai Aona-Ueoka. My roots stem from Nanakuli Homestead. My Tutu Mary C. Aona instilled in me the feeling, the na'au for people and all things Hawaiian. I graduated from Nanakuli High School and attended two years at the University of Hawaii, Manoa.

Aunty Maiki Aiu Lake invited me to join her hula kahiko class. She nurtured my love for my Hawaiian Culture through the art of hula. I uniki as Kumu Hula from the Ilima Class in May 1975. Mahalo Aunty Maiki for the best of foundations.

Mililani Allen from Aunty Maiki's Liko Lehua Class invited me into her Halau as Kokua Kumu. Working with Mili on the practical use and application of teaching, costuming and many other things enriched me.

Edith McKenzie has sharpened my skill in the different styles of oli. Malia Craver has helped to translate many of my compositions of mele and oli. I have attended workshops and classes with Rubelite Johnson, Sally Wood, and Kauai Zuttermeister to name a few.

I have learned so much and I try to pass it on to the youth of the Ko'olau loa District. I presently teach for Queen Lili'uokalani Childrens Center at Punalu'u. We try to promote pride and respect for our Hawaiian Culture through the art of hula.

My mana'o: I feel we as Kumu Hula should not use and prostitute the Hula Kahiko as it has been shared with us. We should acknowledge each of our Kumu and try to keep the mele as close as possible to the way it was taught to us. If we feel the inspiration to create, haku our own mele and our own motions of expression.

Me ke aloha,

Kawai Aona-Ueoka

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Kumu Hula

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