

Nana I Na Loea Hula
April 16, 1990
Minerva Pang

Aloha.

My full name is Minerva Kalauhiwaokalani (Malakaua) Pang. It means "The Wreath of Heaven." My maiden is Higa, then change to Malakaua.

Do you teach presently? Yes, right here in my home.

Do you have a halau name? Yes. It's Minerva Pang's Hula Studio.

What age are you students? I have students from five years to adults.

Do you teach both kahiko and auwana?

Very little kahiko; more auwana.

How about oli? No, I don't teach them oli.

How long have you been teaching hula?

This is my 32nd year.

Can you tell me about what age you began learning hula?

Three years old.

And do you remember who was your first teacher?

That was my cousin that taught me when I was three years old. And when I grew up till about seven I took from a kumu hula. And... I come from the Big Island, so she was from Hilo. Her name was Rose Kuamo'o.

She used to teach years ago...^{way back} about 1935--around there. She taught before that.

And where did she teach.

At her home. In Hilo.

How long did you study under her?

I only took two summers because I lived in Ka'u, so every time I came to Hilo--for two summers--I went to her, then I just danced at school with May Day and festivals. And when I moved to Honolulu then I took again from my mom's kumu hula. I learned

^{only}
auwana from Rose Kuamo'o. When I came to Honolulu I took from Emma...she used to be Emma Moniz and then Emma Bishop. I think Rose had her own style--her own way of teaching. Auntie Emma, too, had her own way of teaching. In fact, a lot of kumu hula that I remember now had took from home. They started from home in the beginning. Auntie Emma taught me auwana, implements--a lot of implements, and auwana. Kahiko was more the modern kahiko, like about the King Kalākaua and Lili'uokalani. Mostly all that. They didn't do too much of Kahiko. I was about 15 years old.

I wanted to learn because we had a goal, and that goal was to take two years and get your certificate.

And at that time we wanted to take until we were ready to get our certificate. I was going to be a teacher, but you have to learn the language and the hula and get your certificate of dancing. You want to make your own way of teaching, and if you understand the Hawaiian words and the interpretation and the story you can make your own way of teaching the hula. She said it will take you years, but along the line while you're learning you'll come to learn the language. Most of the dance that she

would explain to us ^{of} have the story background of the song. ^{what the dance was about} ^{and make your own dance} ^{Give us all the material. I did get a certificate (unlike?)}
Before I started to teach hula I thought I needed to take more dancing so I took the

children's hula -- I took from Kuulei Stibbard. And then I took some more hula from ^{from Kuulei} ^{from Kuulei} another halau. I did not take for too long. I had my daughter take it when she was young. I had my children at that time so I had my daughter take from Kuulei

Stibbard. She took about a year. And then before I moved I wanted to take my self so I took privately. ^{from Kuulei} And when I moved here I opened my halau. Kuulei was in Honolulu. She was actually from the island of Kaua'i.