



## NEWS RELEASE

### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### **MANA MELE FESTIVAL LAUNCHES HAWAII'S FIRST SOLAR-POWERED MOBILE STUDIO**

*Festival to feature performances from Hawaii's top musicians and the premiere of "Hawaii Aloha"*

**HONOLULU** – Mana Maoli and Eat the Street are teaming up for a fun-filled festival to celebrate the launch of *Meleana*, Hawaii's first solar-powered mobile studio, and raise funds for 10 Hawaii charter schools.

The Mana Mele Festival will feature an all-star lineup of Hawaii's top musicians, the premiere of the video "Hawaii Aloha" in collaboration with Playing for Change, and many unique food vendors on Friday, April 22 beginning at 5 p.m. at Makers & Tasters, 1011 Ala Moana Blvd.

Mana Mele Collective members performing on April 22 include: Kimie Miner, John Cruz, Brother Noland, Taimane Gardner, Malani Bilyeu of Kalapana, Ledward Ka'apana of Hui 'Ohana, Irie Love, Paula Fuga, Mike Love, youth from Oahu charter schools and surprise special guests.

The collective recently joined forces with internationally renowned Playing for Change to record and film a "Song Across Hawaii" and a "Song Around the World." The video "Hawaii Aloha" features more than three dozen of Hawaii's top artists across many genres and over 1,000 youth from 10 partner charter schools. All were filmed and recorded live in 27 locations on O'ahu and Kaua'i.

In addition to those listed in the event lineup, featured artists in "Hawaii Aloha" include Kuana Torres Kahele, Cyril Pahinui, Palani Vaughan, Liko Martin, Ashley Lilinoe, Starr Kalahiki, Jah Maoli, Pomaika'i Lyman, Imua Garza, Keli'i Kaneali'i, Wayne Enos and others. Some of the artists will attend the video premiere and be featured special guests.

Tickets are available on [kickstarter.com](http://kickstarter.com) (search for "Mana Mele") or [manamele.org](http://manamele.org). A \$10 donation gets your name on the guest list, and a \$75 donation gets you a VIP ticket, which includes gourmet food, two drink tickets and free onsite parking. A \$15 donation from the first 200 supporters on [kickstarter.com](http://kickstarter.com) will get two names on the guest list; a \$100 donation gets two VIP tickets. All proceeds will benefit Mana Mele's 10 partner charter schools on O'ahu and Kaua'i.

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The state-of-the-art mobile studio, named *Meleana*, and the “*Mana Mele Collective*” will offer high-end live event services and studio products for a fee to businesses, individuals, nonprofits and schools. The *Mana Mele Collective* includes many of Hawai'i's finest music and multimedia industry professionals who proudly support the Mana Mele Project (see ‘Our Team’ page at [manamele.org](http://manamele.org)). The project was responsible for Meleana's 4-in-1 studio (Live, Studio, Audio, Video) as well as a Music & Multimedia Academy that empowers youth via on-campus and ‘real world’ mentorships, the facilitation of creative expression, and year-long classes that teach the ABC's (Academics, Business and Culture) through music. The goal of this initiative is to sustain Meleana's service to Hawai'i's youth.

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### **About Mana Mele**

*Mana Mele* puts a new spin on studios by making its state-of-the-art mobile studio, for live and studio, audio and video, accessible to Hawai'i's public and geared at empowering youth. It offers an innovative solution to the nationwide crisis of decreased funding in music education and cultural preservation, and lack of college/career readiness among our youth. For more information about Mana Mele, visit [www.manamele.org](http://www.manamele.org).

### **About Mana Maoli**

Formed in 1999, Mana Maoli (MM) is a nonprofit that founded Hālau Kū Māna Public Charter School and Kānehūnāmoku Voyaging Academy and the Mana Mele Project. Since 2001, MM has provided short-term mentorships, audio recordings and year-long classes at more than a dozen culture-based charter schools across the Islands. For more information about Mana Maoli, visit [www.manamaoli.org](http://www.manamaoli.org) or follow us on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/manamaolicollective](http://www.facebook.com/manamaolicollective), Instagram or Twitter @mana\_maoli.

### **About MELE**

MELE (Music & Entertainment Learning Experience) is a university program at HCC offering dual degrees in audio engineering and music business. Their role in the Mana Mele Project includes advisory/evaluation of mobile studio buildout, math/science curriculum development, use of their on-campus studio, and engaging their college students as interns and mentors for high school youth. For more information about MELE, visit [www.honolulu.hawaii.edu/mele](http://www.honolulu.hawaii.edu/mele).

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### **About the Mana Mele Collective**

Supporting MM and MELE's behind-the-scenes efforts on the front lines at schools is the Mana Mele Collective which refers to over 200 musicians, engineers, filmmakers and other music/multimedia industry professionals who support Mana Mele youth. They do so through mentorships, concert and CD appearance, and offering their services to the public with a portion of proceeds benefitting Mana Mele programs. For the ever-growing list of who has joined this collective effort, visit the 'Team' section of [www.manamele.org](http://www.manamele.org). Those involved in "Hawai'i Aloha," the Mana Mele EP series, and Kickstarter gifts (performances, meet/greet, lessons, signed CDs) include John Cruz, Jack Johnson, The Green, Kuana Torres Kahele, Paula Fuga, Mike Love, Kimie, Anuhea, Irie Love, Malani Bilyeu (Kalapana), Ledward Ka'apana (Hui 'Ohana), Cyril Pahinui, Ashley Lilinoe, Kamaka Fernandez, Liko Martin, Wayne Enos of Natural Vibrations, Kali of Ooklah the Moc), Taimane Gardner, Jah Maoli, and more.

For sample songs produced by Mana Maoli, click any of the three CD images on the portfolio page of our website: <http://www.manamele.org/#!/portfolio/c1j3i>

For images, visit:

<https://www.dropbox.com/sh/f1jmn98127py2kn/AADp46XqSRKbeleMyqMnm3XQa?dl=0>