



KoAloha Kolumn

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Events



The Greatest Show on Earth is about to kick off again this summer. KoAloha artists including **Manoa DNA**, **Melveen Leed** and **David Kamakahi** will be performing. Come out and support a good cause and enter for a chance to win either a KoAloha or KoAlana ukulele!



It's already summer, so the Ukulele Festivals are here! Get ready

for the big one at Kapiolani Park, simply known as **The Ukulele Festival** as well as all the outstanding ones on the neighbor islands. Log onto Roy Sakuma's website for more details. P.S. Keep an eye out for our booth at The Ukulele Festival. Bring your kids, they'll love it!

New Look

I am proud to announce the new look of the **KoAloha Kolumn**. For those of you that prefer my old Xerox copy – hand-pasted – barely typeset editions, sorry to disappoint you. My all-in-one copier went to copier heaven last month.



The wait is almost over for Sceptre

Countdown to Sceptre

It's less than a month until the release of **Sceptre**. Quote from me: "I instantly fell in love with this design. It was actually designed before the **Pineapple Sunday** and was supposed to be released first. It's been two years of waiting and waiting. I am very excited that we will finally get the chance to make them. Sceptre, it's all in the head..." See Dad, I don't argue with you all the time. As long as you remember I'm da boss. (No worry, Dad doesn't read these newsletters.)



Patricia "Mom" Okami with Grandson Noah Okami.

Happy Birthday!

What can we say, without **Mom**, there would be no KoAloha. On May 25th, we took Mom out to Panda Cuisine for dim sum. We tried to tell the staff there, but they just thought we were trying to order more food. Maybe next time.

Community

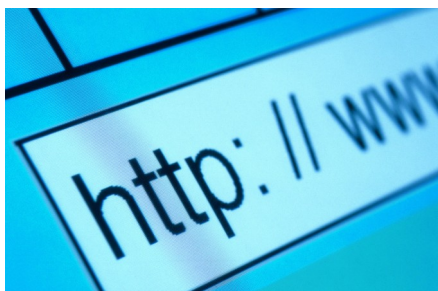
We will be hosting our annual tour from **Pali Preschool** later this month. Amazingly, by 11:00 a.m., 60 children plus adults will have already taken a tour, heard music, complete a hands-on activity & taken individual photos. Whew! After that, we go back to work!!! Ouch.

I was able to witness some of the magic happening in the Ka`u music workshops held by **Keoki Kahumoku**. We will be working on ways to develop these types of workshops that may include building of ukulele as well.



Pali Preschool students enjoyed last year's tour

Website



We have begun to organize our thoughts for our transition to our new web-master,

Dave Kusumoto and the crew at **Entheos-i**. We'll be adding a few new features and more importantly, an update.

Mahalo

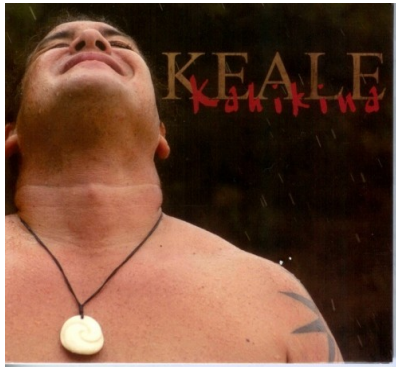
Captain Mike McVay, thanks for ripping up the old floor, putting in the new floor, staining trim, setting trim, setting doorways – whew, is that enough? I've always bragged that we have the best customers.

Merci

THANK YOU

Gracias

Artists Updates



How long? It was worth the wait. **Walt Keale** has released his first CD and it does not disappoint. Walt pays tribute to his kupuna and also showcases his abilities in a few original compositions.



Stairway to Heaven on an uke? Check out **Tony Gambles'** MySpace: www.myspace.com/killerukulele



The sweet and angelic voice of **Victoria Vox** will soon be heard on her second CD featuring ukelele.



Pops KoAloha and the whole gang at KoAloha sang and played music with the **Hawaii Youth Symphony** at their latest luncheon. It was said to be one of the most attended functions of the year. Over 800 people. You folks have got to hear these kids! They work so hard and play so beautifully.



My personal teacher, **Gordon Mark**, recently played another sold out concert at HPR's Ather-ton Theatre with special surprise appearance by **Pops KoAloha**. The response was so good, Dad will join Gordon once again this Christmas.



Bob Berryhill and his **Surfaris** will be performing *Wipeout* using a KoAloha in their upcoming tour. Wow! He's the original *Wipeout* guy.

E Komo Mai



Once again, a warm welcome to **Kimberly Yuen** as our public relations consultant. This newsletter is only one of the many ways she is taking our media efforts to a higher level.

From a lonely one bedroom operation, **Mike Aratani** has grown into one of the most visible and respected online ukulele retailers. His operation has grown into an international one bedroom operation. Welcome to the dealer ohana Mike, sorry you had to jump through hoops. Don't worry, there's more. We know you like hoops.

KOALOHA

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KoAloha Ukulele is regarded as one of the premier ukulele builders in Hawaii. Founded in 1995 by Alvin "Papa KoAloha" Okami, the company's solid reputation for sound and quality is the result of its continuous pursuit for perfection. Each ukulele is meticulously and lovingly crafted by hand.

KoAloha features several lines of premium ukuleles: KoAlana, Soprano, Concert, Tenor, and D-VI 6-String. Its exclusive Signature Series will showcase seven models from Papa KoAloha's Masterpiece Collection.

The company also sponsors some of the music industry's leading artists including Herb Ohta, Jr. and Daniel Ho.

For more information about KoAloha, contact Alan Okami at 808.847.4911.



A Day In Kalihi

Well, not quite Kalihi, but **Aaron Chan** of **Hawaiian Moon** is a contributing member of **A Day In Kalihi** and celebrated an awesome grand opening at the Wai-kiki Beachwalk. They have been very busy and look forward to all the exciting plans for that area.

Neal Arakaki and the ohana at **Menehune Mac** have been successfully hosting groups of tours in their show-room. If you cannot resist the smell of ono chocolate, don't go. They have plenty and the buggahs are ONO! Okay, too bad, you gotta go try the orange cream mac nuts. To die for!

Have you seen **Jimmy Chang's Hawaiian Chips** at Costco? If you cannot get enough of these, go Costco. The bags are Costco sized. One, two, three name mentions, think Costco subsidize my newsletter? Hey! That make four!

Surf's up! Visit us online at:

www.KoAloha.com

Soapbox

On a personal note, I am happy to be playing in my first basketball league in over 12 years. Unfortunately, it shows. Once again, I have been given doses of humility. I am playing with my brother's classmates, nine years younger than me. I used to spank these boys silly. Now, these...Men...hold me up. Ouch, that was my pride again.

We have been relatively silent about our community involvements in our first 12 years as KoAloha. Now is the time we will share more openly about our involvements. By sharing, we hope to that it will encourage others to share their mana'o as well. Our island needs us, folks. How do you malama `aina? Do you?

"By sharing, we hope that it will encourage others to share their mana'o as well."