



3-2600 Kaunualii Hwy Ste. 1300 #425, Lihue, HI 96766 | info@hoakeolapono.org | (808) 652-4208

Press Release

Ho'ākeolapono Trades Academy and Institute
3-2600 Kaunualii Hwy Ste. 1300 #425, Lihue, HI 96766
(808)652-4208 - <https://www.hoakeolapono.org/>



For Immediate Release
October 1, 2024

HO'ĀKEOLAPONO TRADES ACADEMY AND INSTITUTE RECEIVES \$258,700 FROM OHA Kumuwaiwai Na'auao-Educational Resource Grants.

LIHUE, HAWAII - The Ho'ākeolapono Trades Academy and Institute announced a grant award totaling \$258,700 to support the Native Hawaiian community through the Office of Hawaiian Affairs (OHA). The grant will help to reinforce and strengthen Native Hawaiians' connections to 'ohana (family), mo'omeheu (culture) and 'āina (land and water) and support work in OHA's Mana I Maoli Ola Strategies and Outcomes.

The purpose of the "High School Trades Innovation Program" is to educate Native Hawaiian students in grades 9-12 in the building trades industry to increase the Native Hawaiian graduation rate. Through a combination of classroom instruction and practical construction laboratory experiences, students develop the skills and knowledge necessary to pursue careers in the construction industry upon graduation. Our students receive practical construction laboratory experiences from qualified instructors in the basics of tool safety, roofing, insulation, drywall, plaster, blueprint reading, and team workplace skills. Program construction projects will benefit school campuses and community centers serving Native Hawaiian students and their families.

"Hoakeolapono is excited to work with OHA through our High School Trades Innovation program. This funding will strengthen our presence in the Native Hawaiian Community and partners. Over the last two years, we have served over 200 Native Hawaiian individuals, community members, and organizations." - Lawai'a Naihe, Executive Director Ho'ākeolapono Trades Academy and Institute

About Ho'ākeolapono Trades Academy and Institute

Founded in 2021, Ho'ākeolapono Trades Academy and Institute programs are designed to increase employment and advancement opportunities by providing young adults with crucial knowledge and multidisciplinary, 21st-century trade skills. Ho'ākeolapono

participants receive cutting-edge training in various trades and real-world problem-solving strategies that benefit lifelong learners and encourage self-sustainable Hawai'i. Learn more at <https://www.hoakeolapono.org/>.

CONTACT: Lawai'a Naihe
Ho'ākeolapono Trades Academy and Institute
Phone: (808)652-4208
Email: info@hoakeolapono.org

About OHA's Community Grants Program

OHA's Community Grants Program supports non-profit organizations whose projects and programs serve the Native Hawaiian community and align with OHA's Strategic Plan. For more information about the Community Grants Program, please visit <https://www.oha.org/grants>.