

Hau'oli Mau Loa Foundation Expands Fellows Program

We're expanding our partnership with the University of Hawai'i System to support the next generation of homegrown conservation leaders in Hawai'i and are pleased to announce an exciting update regarding our [Environmental Leadership Pathways initiative](#). Over the past two years we have supported Hawai'i graduate students in the Tropical Conservation Biology and Environmental Science (TCBES) program at the University of Hawai'i, Hilo and Natural Resources and Environmental Management (NREM) program at the University of Hawai'i, Mānoa through graduate assistantships. In addition to a tuition waiver, students selected for these graduate assistantships receive a yearly stipend and funds for supplies and professional development. The goal of the Environmental Leadership Pathways initiative is to engage and prepare the next generation of environmental leaders in Hawai'i and the graduate assistantship program is one way of supporting that goal.

These students or "Hau'oli Mau Loa Fellows" are selected based on the following criteria: good academic standing; from Hawai'i as evidenced by graduating from a Hawai'i high school; pursuing an M.S. degree within one of the eligible programs; a track record of supporting Hawai'i's environment, whether through past internships, fellowships or volunteer opportunities; and a commitment to pursuing and attaining a career in conservation or natural resource management in Hawai'i.



Photo provided by Michelle Lazaro

Beginning with the Fall 2015 school year, we will be supporting a new group of Hau'oli Mau Loa Fellows. Three graduate assistantships each will be available at both TCBES and NREM and two at the College of Natural Sciences and the School of Ocean and Earth Sciences and Technology at the University of Hawai'i, Mānoa for a total of eight graduate assistantships. We are excited to partner with these academic institutions to support the next generation of environmental leaders in Hawai'i and hope you will join us in spreading the word about these opportunities. For more information about the graduate assistantships, including information on how to apply, please visit our [website](#).

Hau'oli Mau Loa Fellow Michelle Lazaro conducts soil sampling at a peat bog on Kohala Mountain with USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service soil scientists.

Hope for Kids Evaluation Report Available

Started in May, 2009 by the Foundation, the Hope for Kids Initiative brings together 10 Partners from around the state of Hawai'i. All of the Partners have committed to working together and with the Foundation to expand and enhance their efforts at bringing hope to kids in their communities through developing and delivering experiential learning activities that are land-based. The evaluation report, prepared by PREL and completed in 2014 with input from the Partners and the Foundation, summarizes quantitative and qualitative feedback and experiences about the Hope for Kids efforts from program participants, their

`ohana and program staff. You can read the [executive summary or the full report](#) by visiting our website.

While the findings are limited to the participating 10 Partners, the Foundation is pleased to have additional confirmation of the value of the work these Partners are engaged in. A final evaluation report, covering two program years, will be available in 2015. Each Partner is also working on further capturing their work through video stories which are being produced by Paliku Documentary Films and will also be available in 2015.



Hope for Kids Partners and the Foundation gathered at a convening meeting hosted by Partner, Ma Ka Hana Ka `Ike in Hana, Maui. Annual convening meetings bring participants together to learn and to be inspired.