Nā Makana - The Gifts

Celebrating Hawaiian Culture

A Film by Penny Kaela Bauer Chants by Kumu Poni Kumau'u

KĀLEKA KĀKO'O • A Guidance Card

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Enhancing the Experience For Yourself and Others

The poetic essence of the Hawaiian language lives in its mystical hidden meanings. This magical poetry is visually captured for you in the images of the film Nā Makana. Here are several key words that share an aspect of the Hawaiian culture, with definitions in their simplest form. Take in each word as you view the images, and see what story unfolds for you.



ALOHA · love, compassion

Aloha is the root of the Hawaiian culture. Everything is done with aloha in mind, spirit and body.

Think of a person in your life who expresses deep aloha. In what ways does this person inspire you?

KĀLENA • talent, ability NO EAU • skill, craft KULEANA • privilege, responsibility With aloha woven into kuleana, responsibility need not be a burden or obligation. Each of us is born into this world with talents and accompanying responsibility to develop and contribute them.

What gifts or talents have you been given and how do you share them with others? Who inspires you to develop and share your talents? How do you support this in others?

AHONUI • patience, endurance

With ahonui, we learn new perspecitives, new skills, and seek new solutions. With ahonui, our journey can be full of interesting and life-changing experiences.

Remember a time in your life when you found your patience tested. What did you learn from this experience that strengthened your ahonui?

HA'AHA'A · humility, modesty

No matter how long we have lived, we cannot possibly encounter every experience of life. Humility gives us the ability to listen to others with acceptance and respect, and keeps us open to all of life's possibilities.

Who in your life lives with this kind of open-mindedness? Who really listens to you with respect?

LŌKAHI • unity, harmony

To live in balance and harmony with everything in our environment is our kuleana. Working together is a universal concept as much as it is the Hawaiian way of living.

Coming together in strength can sometimes mean asking for assistance. How do you experience this in your life?

Mihi or forgiveness is an important gift we can give ourselves and others. Today what do you want to forgive in yourself and others?

What is one way in which you, your family, your community work to create lokahi?

As you watch the film, is there an image or chant that interests you? Does that image or chant hold some special meaning for you at this time in your life?

If you were to be photographed for this film, what would your hands hold as a gift to all of us?