

## From the Director's Desk

Dear all,

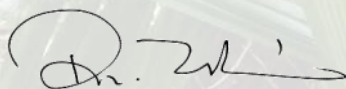
Life sometimes throws big surprises at you – and often when you least expect it. I have recently gone through one such experience as late last year I was offered the unique opportunity to head up the Charles Darwin Foundation (<https://www.darwinfoundation.org/en/>), a non-profit organization based in the Galápagos islands that works alongside the national park to oversee and manage all research and conservation efforts that pertain to the archipelago. It is about as unique an opportunity as they come... and for most biologists the Galápagos archipelago represents a sort of Holy Grail. Most of us only dream of visiting sometime in our life – let alone get the opportunity to live and work there for an extended period. So, after much contemplation and many sleepless nights thinking this over, I decided that this was too good of an opportunity to let pass and I would forever regret not taking the chance if I didn't go. For its part, UHM has been extremely understanding of my predicament and the opportunity presented and provided me with a year's leave of absence. While these discussions and negotiations went on for months, the interim time frame has flown by! My last day at Lyon came and went in a flash (January 29<sup>th</sup>) and I am set to start at the Foundation on March 1<sup>st</sup>! I can hardly keep up with the whirlwind of events and at times have felt a bit out of sorts.

The decision is naturally bittersweet – I am extremely excited about this opportunity and the chance to work in such a unique environment, but at the same time I am very torn about leaving Lyon. I have grown very fond of the Arboretum and of staff in particular, and feel like there is much left to do and that I could contribute to. But as I was struggling with this decision I kept falling back on '...but it's the Galápagos!'. It really is a Holy Grail to us biologists and I could not shake the allure it represented.

All that said I have no intention of closing my connection to Lyon or UHM. Assuming I stay at CDF, I fully intend on building a strong connection with the University and creating a collaborative research and education pipeline. After all, both the Galápagos and Hawaii are young tropical volcanic archipelagoes in the Pacific Ocean and share many of the same challenges and opportunities. So it makes all the sense in the world to link these two organizations up and leverage the strength that each institution has to offer for a strong partnership. In my initial conversations with Deans and Directors at UHM there is strong interest in looking for ways to build these connections up and I plan on doing that as soon as I am established there. I also see many parallels with Lyon – and some of the work and expertise that has been developed at the Arboretum could be translated readily to the Galápagos. Those are conversations that I also plan on having in the not too distant future. So I will be back in some form or another!

I will take this medium to thank you all for your support of Lyon and staff (including myself) over the years and for believing in our broad vision and goals as a very special off-campus research and conservation unit of the University of Hawaii.

Mahalo to all and please stay in touch,



Zak





# SPRING PLANT SALE 2021

Although we were not able to host our typical Holiday Plant Sale event at Lyon last year, the downsized and “socially distanced” sale we held was a big success! Despite the challenges of hosting and attending an event during a pandemic, many registered customers turned out over the course of the three day sale and most went home with some beautiful and interesting plants and crafts. We appreciate the support from everyone who was able to attend the sale and apologize to everyone else who wasn't able to snag a reservation in time. We expect as our situation with COVID-19 continues to improve in Hawai'i, that we'll be able to accommodate more customers at future sales.

With the start of a new year and the continued roll out of vaccines to UH and the broader community, many of us feel hope for a brighter future and the return to some sense of normality. As spring approaches, the Horticulture Department at Lyon is preparing a new batch of rare, interesting, and useful plants that will be available at our upcoming sale at the end of April. In order to ensure everyone's continued safety, customers hoping to attend the sale will be **required to register ahead of time**, through the website Eventbrite, for a specific time slot. In addition, we will hold the sale over the course of three days (**Thursday, April. 29<sup>th</sup> for Friends of Lyon Arboretum Members and Friday April 30<sup>th</sup>— Saturday, May 1<sup>st</sup> for the general public**), as opposed to just a single day. This will allow us to stagger visitation and eliminate the need for shuttles, or off-site parking, and provide sufficient spots in our main parking lot for all registered customers. Attendance for this exclusive event is **limited to 192 reservations** over the course of three days. Each registration will provide access for one vehicle and attendance of up to four people from the same household. **Customers will have 45 minutes** to browse the sale, select their favorite plants and crafts, and then complete purchases. In accordance with UH Mānoa COVID-19 guidelines, all customers attending the sale will be **required to wear a face covering**, practice social distancing, and assess their health status prior to attending the sale. We have also decided to limit the number of participating vendors, as well as customer capacity in the Visitor Center facilities. For now, we feel that this format is the safest and best way for us to hold an event, but we plan to revisit the format for the Fall 2021 sale.

Backyard gardening and caring for house plants has given many people in our community an opportunity to relieve stress and to feel a sense of accomplishment and optimism during challenging times. That's why we are excited to, once again, offer many interesting, unique, and useful plants to the community through our upcoming sale. Some of the plants you can expect to find at our spring sale include **rare “house plants”** (*Philodendron*, *Hoya*, *Anthurium*, *Monstera*, and *Begonia*), uncommon **edibles** (green tea, black pepper vine, kaffir lime, vanilla, and miracle berry), **ornamentals** (cut ti- *Cordyline*, *Gardenia*, assorted vines, pua keni keni, gingers, and *Heliconia*), a variety of **natives** (ōhi'a, kokio, alahe'e), **carnivorous plants, hanging baskets, bromeliads, and succulents**. We will also have U.H. Seed Lab **vegetable and herb seeds and starters** available for purchase. In addition, the Hui Hana Lei group will also have **hand-made lei and arrangements** available for online pre-order and then pickup at the plant sale. Craft vendors located in the Visitor Center will offer **hand-made and wearable art**, arrangements such as **kokedama**, and **botanical - inspired Aloha apparel** by David Shepard for purchase. Finally, a note that we will do our best to stagger our sale inventory over the duration of the 3-day sale so everyone who registers has a chance to purchase most of what they are looking for!

**Online registration for the upcoming sale will open the first full week in April (5th-9th) through our website.** So be ready to reserve a spot for the sale as soon as it opens! To keep everyone safe, attendance will be very limited.

Take care and Hope to see you soon!

- Tim Kroessig, Horticulturist





# A PREVIEW OF PLANT SALE OFFERINGS



*Drosera anglica mikinalo*



Hawaiian Flag ti



*Peperomia kokedama*



*Philodendron verrucosum*



*Begonia maculate wightii*



*Hoya lauterbachii*



*Anthurium clerinervum*



*Viresea Abigail Jean*



*Monstera andansonii*



*Hibiscus brackenridgei*

## Spring Plant Sale Lei Po'o Orders

Celebrate May Day with an amazing lei made by the Hui Hana Lei Volunteers!

Order a beautiful lei po'o (21 inch lei worn on the head) by April 21 by phone or at the Lyon Arboretum's website. Cost is \$30 for each lei We are offering 4 choices of lei:

- 1) pink/purple 2) red/orange/yellow 3) green 4) mixed.

Lei can be picked up during your reserved time at the Spring Sale or by a pre-arranged drive-by time. Please indicate the date and time for the pick up when submitting your order. For more information, call 988-0456 or visit <https://manoa.hawaii.edu/lyon/>.

Nothing can replace a lei to express your aloha!



1



2



3



4



# COMMUNITY CLASSES: WE'RE BACK....ONLINE!!

As many of you are aware, access to the Arboretum has been greatly affected by COVID. In order to keep everyone safe, the Arboretum was shut down for a period of time and only recently opened up again to volunteers and visitors on a limited basis. For the Education Department, the shutdown was devastating as the majority of the Education programs had to be paused. The popular school field trips, nature day-camps, guided tours, and community classes all had to be canceled.

Notwithstanding, the Education Department continued to carry out the Arboretum mission to educate the public by increasing the Arboretum's presence on social media, creating virtual tours for the public and educators, and most recently, offering online community classes.

Pre-Covid, the community classes were always popular and a range of topics were covered such as yoga, cooking, and of course, plant care. As the Arboretum navigates being open in the current climate, the community classes are now being offered online as Zoom meetings or webinars. Due to the limited capacity of the classrooms normally used for in-person instruction, the classes are exclusively online.

Because hosting live online classes was a new endeavor for the Education Department, a cooking class taught by the Arboretum's talented Facilities Manager, Clancy Ako was offered as a pilot to test out the set-up and work out technical issues. Did you know before changing careers to work in construction, he trained at the culinary school at KCC, worked at the Halekulani hotel and at other well-known restaurants? Clancy shared how to make Kalo and Ulu poke, which was delicious. Because the pilot class was successful, the Education Department decided to move forward and offer the full range of community classes like before albeit online.

The Spring semester has already started. Once again, the Arboretum has partnered up with the Garden Club of Honolulu to offer classes like floral arranging and soil prep for container gardens. The Spring class schedule actually opened with a Garden Club of Honolulu class. Jay Bost, Site Manager with GoFarm Hawai'i Windward, taught

participants how to use and grow local seeds for the Garden Club's Stepping Stones series of classes which are for their member candidates and the public.

The Arboretum is also offering classes taught by Lyon staff or long-time volunteers and supporters of the Arboretum. The Grounds Department's Jesse Adams has started his plant identification and taxonomy class entitled "A Rose by any other name...". Other classes offered are Uncle Wes Sen's lauhala weaving class and Sheila Conant's birding class. Both Wes and Sheila have been strong supporters of the Arboretum for many years. Wes is a well-known cultural practitioner of lomi lomi massage, kapa making, and lauhala weaving and teaches his skills at Hālau Kū Māna Public Charter School and other organizations. Sheila Conant has worked for over 40 years in the areas of ecology, biology, research, and conservation, and has served as the Chair of the Ecology, Evolution and Conservation Biology Graduate Specialization and as Chair of the Department of Zoology at the University of Hawai'i. We love them very much and are enormously appreciative that they are willing to share their expertise for the Arboretum.

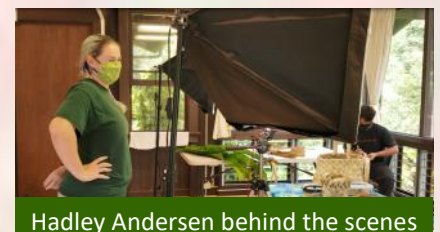
Although registration for the classes mentioned in this article may already be closed, you can visit the Lyon Arboretum's Classes and Events page on the website to see what you can still sign up for:

<https://manoa.hawaii.edu/lyon/classes-and-events/>.

If you are interested in teaching a class, please contact Raedelle Van Fossen, Education Manager or Hadley Anderson, Education Specialist at (808) 988-0461. You can also email us at [educationlyonarboretum@gmail.com](mailto:educationlyonarboretum@gmail.com).

We love it when the people who are supporters of the Arboretum share their wealth of knowledge for our community classes. We hope to offer in-person classes soon and we will keep everyone updated. Until then, we will continue to offer a variety of classes that we hope many will enjoy.

- Raedelle Van Fossen



Hadley Andersen behind the scenes

# THE MOSS AMONG US

Moss are small, relatively simple, and very ancient. These plants, along with Liverworts and Hornworts, were the first to colonize land from aquatic origins roughly 500 million years ago. In Hawai'i, there are about 250 native species of Moss alone with 75 of them found nowhere else in the world. Fortunately, Lyon Arboretum hosts an abundance of native moss species, some very striking and obvious while others are cryptic. One species that becomes very obvious when walking around old Eucalyptus and 'ōhi'a lehua is *Leucobryum gracile*, or pin cushion moss. It's easily identified by the pale, white-green color and dense cushions that form at the base or on branches of trees and rotting logs. Sometimes it can be seen blanketing parts of the ground in old-growth forests. At Lyon, it's best seen in the Ethnobotany section on the large *Metrosideros* on the eastern side of the trail. Next time you're out hiking, take a minute to stop and appreciate the microcosms of moss.



*Leucobryum gracile*

- Miles Thomas

## Wish List

- Gardening Gloves (Various Sizes)
- Garden decorations for the Children's Garden (i.e. bird bath, mini water fountain for water plant container)
- Mosquito Spray (with DEET)
- All-natural mosquito repellent
- Backpack Weed Torch

## Mahalo for your support!

Helen Fujimoto—Nitrile Gloves

Marc Higashi—10x10 Pop Up Tent

David McCauley—Monetary donations to Lyon's Facilities and Education Departments

HI Chapter-Alpha Delta Kappa—Monetary donations to Lyon's Education Department

**And a Special Mahalo to ALL OF OUR AWESOME VOLUNTEERS!!**

## Volunteer at Lyon!!

Interested in volunteering at Lyon? Check out our web site at:

<https://manoa.hawaii.edu/Lyon>

Once there, look under the "Support and Opportunities" menu. Select "Volunteer".

Follow the instructions, and pick a group or department that interests you.



# Your Lyon Arboretum Legacy:

## Simple strategies that can help you help others

**A**s we move into 2021, many of us are focusing on all that we have to be thankful for, and then turning our gratefulness around, directing it toward others in a spirit of giving. This time of year is also tax season, and smart tax planning is top of mind, too.

Our team can help you reduce your liabilities while extending the joy of giving – so your gifts can be of most benefit to the University of Hawai'i and the people it serves, while helping to fulfill your philanthropic goals. Here are some simple and tax-smart strategies to consider:

### Give appreciated securities instead of cash:

- Benefit from long run-up in stock market – indices at all-time high
- Receive full fair market value income tax deduction
- Eliminate tax on capital gains on sale
- Easy electronic transfer of shares

### Use your IRA to make tax-free distributions to UHF for UH:

- Make “qualified charitable distributions” (QCD)
- Must be age 70½ to utilize
- Counts toward “required minimum distributions” (RMD)
- Available up to \$100,000 per person
- Avoids unwanted income on tax return

### Consider a charitable gift annuity:

- Turn low-paying cash assets into lifetime fixed annuity
- Benefit from age-bracketed annuity rates – older age produces higher rate
- Sign a simple, two-page contract with UH Foundation
- Receive annuity income that is partially tax free

### Leverage your home equity:

- Transfer all or part of home or vacation property by deed
- Retain full use of home for life
- Receive immediate and very large charitable income tax deduction
- Pass gifted portion of asset to UH Foundation after life use



*Dr. Jennifer Frank is a primary care physician who has established an endowment for the benefit of future family physicians. She makes qualified charitable distributions from her IRA to the UH Foundation as a part of her giving strategy.*

*“I’m very aware of the shortage of family and primary care physicians,” said Frank. “So when I thought about making a gift, really the most important thing was to help address this issue.”*



We would be pleased to run illustrations for you and your tax adviser on any of the above charitable tax strategies. Remember, with planning, you save big on taxes, and the programs at the Lyon Arboretum benefit greatly.

UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII FOUNDATION

**Audrey Hirayama – Development Office**

808-956-9172 • [audrey.hirayama@uhfoundation.org](mailto:audrey.hirayama@uhfoundation.org)

[www.UHFLegacyGift.org](http://www.UHFLegacyGift.org)

# A Special Mahalo to These Generous Donors

## Koa

(\$500 and Above)

*Cincinnati Zoo & Botanical Garden*

*Vonnie Turner*

*Dick Carlson*

*Ursula Magaard*

*Suzan Harada*

*Ricky & Amy Uy*

*Jhamandas Watumull Fund*

## Ohia Lehua

(\$250-\$500)

*Leslie & Delle Swindale*

## Ilima

*Katherine Akamine*

*Leroy Hemmingway*

*Darin Lim Yankowitz*

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*Heidi Blinsky*

*Eileen Herring*

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*Noa Perales-Estoesta*

*Watermark Publishing, LLC*

Please send donations to:

*Lyon Arboretum / UHF*

**3860 Mānoa Rd, Honolulu, HI 96822**

You can also donate online: [www.uhf.hawaii.edu/LyonArboretum](http://www.uhf.hawaii.edu/LyonArboretum)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: ( ) \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Payment method: \_\_\_\_\_ check (payable to UH Foundation; Memo: Lyon Arboretum acct#12043404)

Or Credit Card: \_\_\_\_\_ (Visa) \_\_\_\_\_ (Master Card)

Account #: \_\_\_\_\_ Exp date: \_\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_\_ Security code: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_





**University of Hawai'i-Mānoa  
Harold L. Lyon Arboretum**

3860 Mānoa Rd.  
Honolulu, HI 96822  
Phone: 808-988-0456  
manoa.hawaii.edu/Lyon

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**Return Service Requested**

**DUE TO COVID 19  
RESTRICTIONS**

**LYON ARBORETUM IS  
OPEN TO LIMITED ACCESS  
MONDAY—FRIDAY  
BY REGISTRATION ONLY**

PLEASE CHECK OUR WEBSITE  
FOR DATES AND TIMES TO  
REGISTER TO VISIT THE  
ARBORETUM

**Arboretum Staff**

**Acting Director**  
Nellie Sugii

**Administration**  
Destin Shigano,  
Derek Higashi

**Education & Volunteer Programs**  
Raedelle Van Fossen, Jenna Watling,  
Hadley Andersen

**Grounds & Collections**  
Liloa Dunn, Nathan Kamaka, Robert Santiago,  
Isaiah Kalahiki, Jesse Adams, Tylor Schwarze,  
Richard Sears

**Micropropagation Lab**  
Nellie Sugii, Cindy Yamamoto,  
Doug Okamoto, Devon Gordon,  
Libby Dingeldein,

**Seed Lab**  
Dr. Anna Sugiyama  
Nathaniel Kingsley

**Horticulture**  
Tim Kroessig

**Facilities / Maintenance:**  
Clancy Ako  
Kim Zane

**Spring Plant Sale 2021**

**Due to COVID19 guidelines and social distancing practices,  
customers must register via EventBrite before  
April 28th, 2021**

**April 29th : for Friends of Lyon Arboretum Members**

**April 30th—May 1st : General Public**

**3860 Manoa Road, Honolulu, HI 96822**

- ◆ **Registration will be for (1) one vehicle and up to (4) four people from the same household.**
- ◆ **Customers will have 45 minutes to shop.**
- ◆ **All customers must wear face coverings, practice social distancing and assess their health status prior to attending the sale.**
- ◆ **Gift Shop will be CLOSED.**

**See article inside for more details!**