WINDWARD HO‘OLAULE‘A

For more information, contact Libby Young at 235-7396 or email libby@hawaii.edu

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Top island entertainment, ‘ono food, unique local crafts, keiki games, and activities showcasing Hawaiian culture will be part of the 6th Annual Windward Ho‘olaule‘a: “A Homegrown Celebration” Saturday, Sept. 16 from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. at Windward Community College in Kane‘ohe.

The event, expected to draw more than 20,000 people, is being coordinated by WCC and the Kaneohe Business Group. The flagship sponsors are Hardware Hawaii Lumber and the Honolulu Advertiser. Admission is free.

“We’re highlighting entertainment and programs spanning the whole Windward side —from Waimanalo to Kahuku-Laie,” said co-chair Janis Chun. “We also have new activities to focus on the richness of our Hawaiian culture and WCC programs in art, music, science, Hawaiian Studies and other areas.”

Chun said this year’s community-wide, family-friendly event is shaping up to be the best one yet in terms of variety and new attractions.

Among the featured performers on the Great Lawn will be Kapena, Melveen Leed, Eddie Kamae, and Holunape, 2006 Na Hoku Hanohano winners, as well as several Windward O‘ahu hula halau and other musical groups.

This year the special emphasis will be on Hawaiian culture, with an array of demonstrations such as woodcarving, poi pounding, canoe building and plant identification scheduled throughout the day.

In addition, the event will feature a used book and white elephant sale, raku demonstrations, shows at WCC’s high-tech Imaginarium, a bonsai exhibit at Gallery ‘Iolani and community booths.
Not-for-profit community organizations interested in having table space can call Gordon Miyamoto at 235-7747. “Our goal is to showcase Windward O‘ahu and help people discover opportunities at the college and in the community,” said Chun.

Also for the first time the Windward Ho‘olaule‘a is joining forces with WCC’s Hawai‘i Music Institute to offer ‘ukulele and hula workshops led by master teachers. WCC will offer special HMI workshops that day taught by acclaimed musicians Benny Chong, Herb Ohta, Jr., Bruce Shimabukuro, and Ron Loo and kumu hula Noenoe Zuttermeister and Holoua Stender.

The sessions will run one hour and 45 minutes, from 8:30 a.m. to 2:45 p.m. The fee is $30 per session or $80 for the day, and $62 for the day for seniors 65 and older. HMI scholarships to cover workshop fees for students grades 6 through college also are available. Call 235-7433 or visit http://ocet.wcc.hawaii.edu for more details.

For further information on the entire Windward Ho‘olaule‘a event, go to www.wcc.hawaii.edu/hoolaulea.

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ENTERTAINMENT SCHEDULE – MAIN STAGE

9:15 – 10 a.m. – Vaihi
10:15 – 11 a.m. – Na Kupuna O Ko‘olau
11:15 – noon – Na Mele Manu Aloha
12:15 – 1 p.m. – Melveen Leed
1:15 – 2 p.m. – ‘Ohana Nui
2:15 – 3 p.m. – Pila Nahenahe
3:15 – 4 p.m. – Kupa‘aina
4:15 – 5 p.m. – Halau Hula O Napunaheleonapua
5:15 - 6 p.m. – Holunape
6:15 – 7 p.m. – Hawai‘i Loa
7:15 – 8 p.m. – Eddie Kamae and Friends
8:15 – 9 p.m. - Kapena