

Nov. 13, 2026

Aloha nō e ka ‘ohana a me nā hoa o Kamehameha,

Mahalo nui for the steadfast aloha, strength, and unity you continue to show in standing for Ke Ali‘i Pauahi and her enduring legacy. As we share this Ola Pauahi, Ola Hawai‘i update, we are approaching an important milestone in our legal journey. On November 17, our Trustees and legal team will appear before the federal court to present arguments in support of our motion to dismiss the lawsuit challenging Ke Ali‘i Pauahi’s vision.

As they prepare to stand for Ke Ali‘i Pauahi and the generations of Hawaiian learners she entrusted to our care, we invite our ‘ohana, hoaloha and kākoʻo across Hawai‘i and beyond to join in a **shared moment of reflection on Tuesday, November 17, at 8:30 a.m.**

Wherever you may be, we encourage you to offer a pule, mele, oli, quiet reflection or any other personal expression of aloha and support. Though we may be in different places, we stand together in purpose, grounded in our faith, strengthened by one another and united in our kuleana to protect and perpetuate Ke Ali‘i Pauahi’s legacy.

Other developments and updates

- We have responded to proposed federal tax regulations that could threaten the tax-exempt status of Kamehameha Schools and other educational institutions. Under the regulations proposed by the U.S. Department of the Treasury and Internal Revenue Service, a private school would no longer qualify as a 501(c)(3) tax-exempt organization if it discriminates, on the basis of race, color, or national or ethnic origin in any of its programs or activities, including its admissions practices, for any purpose. We advocated in our comment letter that the proposed regulations exclude Ke Kula ʻo Kamehameha because our unique role in improving the well-being of Native Hawaiians through education is in no way discrimination. Since 1975, the IRS has upheld Kamehameha’s Native Hawaiian admissions preference policy as consistent with federal law. We remain committed to honoring Ke Ali‘i Pauahi’s legacy, as we have for 140 years.
- A recent Hawai‘i State Senate briefing examined the historical and legal foundations of programs established to serve Native Hawaiians, including Kamehameha Schools. The discussion highlighted the importance of understanding these institutions within the broader context of Native Hawaiian history, rights and the commitments made by generations of ali‘i and kūpuna to care for our people. **Watch the Senate briefing.**

Kaiāulu highlight: Advancing ea through collective voice

At the 25th annual Native Hawaiian Convention, leaders from Ke Kula ʻo Kamehameha, Papa Ola Lōkahi and the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands joined community members in a discussion centered on self-determination, unity and the renewed legal challenges facing Native Hawaiian institutions. The conversation reminded us that ea is strengthened when education, health, housing, ʻāina and community organizations move together with shared purpose. Kamehameha's participation reflected Ke Aliʻi Pauahi's continuing charge to prepare Hawaiian learners to lead with service. Gatherings like this help our lāhui see that advocacy is strongest when rooted in relationship, collaboration and kapu aloha.



Ke Kula ʻo Kamehameha CEO Jack Wong participated in a plenary session discussion at this year's Native Hawaiian Convention.

Read the full story »

Educational resource spotlight: Ke Ala Ea – Next steps conversation starters

This quarter's featured educational resource is Ke Ala Ea, a reflection on the deep relationship between ea and aloha ʻāina. The resource reminds us that ea is the breath that animates aloha ʻāina, while aloha ʻāina gives purpose and direction to ea. It invites each of us to fill and light our own poho kukui through learning, reflection and kuleana, so that ea can rise from within and strengthen those around us. **Download and share this resource** with ʻohana and friends as a conversation starter about how ea begins at home and grows through collective aloha, commitment, and action.



Ea activates our sense of agency, kuleana, and our collective ability to determine our own future. Start the conversation with ʻohana and friends with this resource accessed through our **waihona**.

For Ke Aliʻi Pauahi. For our haumāna. For our lāhui.

E ulu koa, e ola ke ea.

Ola Pauahi, Ola Hawaiʻi

Ke Kula ʻo Kamehameha