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**PALACE CONCERT REMEMBERS ‘PEOPLE’S PRINCESS’**

KAILUA-KONA—The Daughters of Hawai‘i and Calabash Cousins present a free concert 4 p.m. Sunday, October 18 at Hulihe‘e Palace to honor the late Princess Kaiulani, who is fondly remembered as the “People’s Princess.” Enjoy the voices of the Merrie Monarchs and Hawaiian performing arts by Kumu Hula Etua Lopes and his Halau Na Pua Ui O Hawai‘i.

Kindly bring a beach mat or chair as seating won’t be provided. Concert goers are encouraged to take advantage of the free “chair check” conveniently located across from the palace and enjoy the Kokua Kailua Village Stroll from 1-6 p.m. During the Village Stroll, Ali‘i Drive is turned into a pedestrian mall and musicians and artists take to the street in a fun and festive family atmosphere. Kokua Kailua is sponsored by four local business organizations, Hulihe‘e Palace and KWXX Radio.

Princess Victoria Kawekiu Lunalilo Kalaninuiāhilapalapa Kaiulani was the last heir to the Hawaiian throne. Born in 1875 to Princess Miriam Likelike, she was the niece of King Kalakaua.

“Her father was an Edinburgh Scot named Archibald Cleghorn, who was a governor of O‘ahu,” says Fanny Au Hoy, palace administrator. “The young princess, who was fond of peacocks, lived in Waikiki at the garden estate of Ainahau. Today, it is the present location of the Sheraton Princess Kaiulani Hotel.”

A fellow Scot, Robert Lewis Stevenson, became friends with Princess Kaiulani and he wrote numerous poems about his “little maid.” Known for her grace and hospitality, Kaiulani traveled abroad and studied in London as a teenager. Though a long way from Hawai‘i, she soon found herself in the fight to save the monarchy from American annexationists.

“Kaiulani went to Washington and visited President Grover Cleveland and his wife to plead her cause,” adds Au Hoy. “Enchanted by the young, beautiful and fashionable Kaiulani, President Cleveland sent a personal representative to Hawai‘i to report on the political situation.”

Kaiulani’s aunt, Queen Lili‘uokalani, and others suggested the princess choose a husband to help Hawai‘i’s political situation: the nephew of the Emperor of Japan or her Hawaiian cousin, Prince David Kawananakoa. Bitter and disillusioned, Kaiulani realized her chance at the throne was gone forever when Hawai‘i officially became part of the U.S. in August 1898.

A few months later, after attending a wedding at Parker Ranch, Kaiulani got caught in a cold, cutting “Waimea rain” and the princess became seriously ill. “Her father came to the Big Island with the family doctor and Kaiulani improved at Mana enough to be carried by litter to a ship bound for Honolulu,” explains Au Hoy. “Back at Aina hau, her illness persisted, worsened and she died in two months; Kaiulani was 23 years old.”

After closed for earthquake repairs in December 2007, Hulihe‘e Palace reopened for self-guided tours on September 30. Museum and gift shop hours are 10 a.m.-3 p.m. Wednesday through Saturdays. Hulihe‘e Palace admission, which at this time includes a self-guided tour brochure, remains \$6 for adults, \$4 for seniors and \$1 for keiki under 18. Volunteer docents are sometimes available to give guided tours. For details, contact the palace at 329-1877, the palace office at 329-9555 or visit [www.daughtersofhawaii.org](http://www.daughtersofhawaii.org). The gift shop can be reached by phoning 329-6558.

Caretakers of Hulihe‘e Palace are the Daughters of Hawai‘i. The organization was founded in 1903 and opens membership to any woman who is directly descended from a person who lived in Hawai‘i prior to 1880. Helping the Daughters in its efforts since 1986 are the Calabash Cousins; membership is available to all.

**Additional palace concert dates for 2009:**

November 15: featuring the Hulihe‘e Palace band

December 13: featuring Kumu Hula Etua Lopes and his Halau Na Pua U‘i O Hawai‘i

**Fern Gavelek**

2006 Small Business Admin. Journalist of the Year Hawaii County

2009 Kona-Kohala Chamber of Commerce Member of the Year

Volunteer Publicist for Hulihe‘e Palace

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