



PRESS RELEASE

August 20, 2024

Hawai'i Island Festival of Birds October 26, 2024 | 9AM - 5:30PM Grand Naniloa Hotel Hilo, 93 Banyan Dr. Hilo, HI 96720

After a successful 2023 event with over 600 people in attendance, the Hawai'i Island Festival of Birds is returning to the Grand Naniloa Hotel Hilo on Saturday October 26, 2024. This full day, family-friendly festival will include a Bird Fair featuring artists and crafters that highlight native birds in their work as well as conservation nonprofits, guest speakers and Hālau hula, bird trivia, and soundscapes throughout the day. In addition, this year's featured panel will be on Papahānaumokuākea. Guest presentations include talks on bioacoustics, citizen science and Nēnē data, lessons from bird school up at Hakalau Forest, an introduction to the work of the Keauhou Bird Conservation Center, and manu hula presented by Hawai'i Island Hālau. This event is presented by the Hawai'i Wildlife Center and the Conservation Council for Hawai'i. Proceeds raised at the festival support the work of these two conservation organizations.

The goal of the festival is to come together as a community to celebrate native bird species in Hawai'i and fight against hopelessness in the face of tough conservation challenges. Through the sharing of mana'o and enthusiasm, the festival aims to uplift and motivate. As attendees listen to the soundscapes, we hope they will imagine a Hawai'i so naturally abundant in native birdsong and life. The artwork selected to represent the 2024 Festival, a wonderfully illustrated landscape by artist Joanna Maney, also ties into the theme of aspirational abundance.

Presale tickets will be available in September. Tickets will be required for full access to the guest presentations in the Grand Naniloa Crown Room as well as the Bird Fair in the Ho'omalimali, Sandalwood, and Palm rooms. The central outreach tent Learning Lounge on the lobby lānai of the Grand Naniloa Hotel will be free and will not require tickets. Discounted room rates at the Grand Naniloa Hotel are available via a special booking link on the Hawai'i Island Festival of Birds website, www.birdfesthawaii.org.

Mahalo to our 'lo level sponsors Grand Naniloa Hotel Hilo, Hawai'i Forest and Trail, and National Wildlife Federation, 'Ākepa level sponsors Friends of Hakalau Forest National Wildlife Refuge, Hawaiian Electric, and Kowa Sporting Optics, and 'Alawī level sponsor Kōlea Hop Water. Special mahalo also to Central Pacific Bank.

Hope to see you at the 2024 Hawai'i Island Festival of Birds!

