

# The Maile Wreath

Newsletter of Hawaiian Mission Houses Historic Site and Archives

Spring 2016

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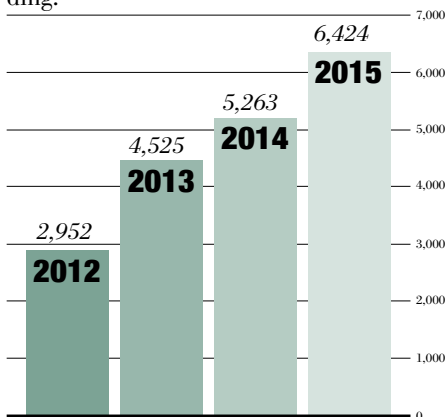
## Digital collections expand and serve increasing user demand

In 2007, Hawaiian Mission Houses Historic Site and Archives set out to digitize as much of its collection as possible. Progress may have seemed slow to those not involved, but it was steady and purposeful. As the digital material that was available online began to grow, significant improvement to access became a reality. During just the last four years, from 2012 to 2015, use of the digital resources at Hawaiian Mission Houses Archives has exploded, growing 118%, with monthly “hits” to the digitized pages increasing from 246 on the average to an average of 714 each month, an increase of 190% over the four years. Researchers—including university students and professors, international scholars, and HMH staff—and the general public are amazed at what they can now access seven days a week, twenty-four hours a day.

The latest additions of missionary materials to the HMHSA Digital Collection, the Missionary Letters Collection, 1820 – 1900, more than 74,000 pages of both personal and business letters, are now live on the web and accessible to anyone with an Internet connection and a web browser.

For example, this collection includes an extensive collection of Kauaʻi missionaries Abner and Lucy Wilcox. Abner and Lucy Wilcox sailed with the Eighth Company from Boston, Massachusetts, December 14, 1836, on the barque *Mary Frazier* and arrived in Honolulu, April 9, 1837. Initially, they were stationed at Hilo, 1837 – 1844, where Mr. Wilcox taught school and carried the Gospel to those living at a distance. He and Mrs. Wilcox taught a children’s school with Native Hawaiian assistance. After two years

on Oʻahu, in 1846 they moved to Waioli Mission in Hanalei where Mr. Wilcox taught a Select School for Hawaiian boys from Niʻihau and Kauaʻi for over 20 years. He believed in lay preaching and often gave the sermons on the Sabbath assisting Reverend Johnson. The Abner and Lucy Wilcox collection contains three journals and 869 letters from the years 1829 to 1868 and one letter from 1922 confirming the date of Abner and Lucy Wilcox’s wedding.



### Visits to the Hawaiian Mission Houses Digital Collections

The digitization also includes significant Maui collections. Dr. Baldwin of Lahaina documented his work from 1848 to 1858 in three volumes mixing medical notes with comments on daily life. Mrs. Baldwin’s journal covers their voyage to Hawaiʻi as well as the first few months here. Rev. Reuben Tinker notes the dates that he worked on translating the *History of Hawaii, Ka Mooolelo Hawaii*, which was written by Lahainaluna students with the help of their teacher Rev. Sheldon Dibble. Concern for the education of their own children is expressed by Anelucia

(continued on page 4)



Kaleikea Kamekona, a Bailey descendant, was the youngest cousin in 2015.

## Annual Meeting

Preservation of this site, its buildings, and its archives includes keeping up with historic activities and for one hundred and sixty-four years there has been a business meeting of the Hawaiian Mission Children’s Society. Most often, that has also been followed by what those of yore called the “commemorative meeting” and we now call the Roll Call, a counting of all the descendants of each family in order of their arrival. Some years the Judds and Cookes or Rices battled to have the most in attendance. More recently the Bailey ‘ohana has outnumbered these as well as capturing the youngest cousin honors.

This year we celebrate several milestones on our way to our Bicentennial year of 2020. We mark the 100th anniversary of the building of Mission Memorial Library across King Street from our site and the 175th anniversary of the arrival of the Ninth Company: Mr. and Mrs. William Rice, Reverend and Mrs. John Paris, Reverend and Mrs. Daniel Dole, and Reverend and Mrs. Elias Bond.

The Annual Meeting Celebration is open to everyone. On Friday morning: No-host breakfast with the President and Executive Director is followed by an opportunity for a tour of the archives before they open (by reservation). Please let us know if you are coming for breakfast and if you are interested in archives so we know how many to plan for.

In the afternoon, join the City and

(continued on page 7)

# The Maile Wreath

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## Mission Statement

Hawaiian Mission Houses Historic Site and Archives preserves the heritage and interprets the stories of the American Protestant Missionaries, their descendants, and their relationships with the people and cultures of Hawai'i, connecting with contemporary life, and encouraging a deeper understanding and appreciation of the complex history of Hawai'i.

# Volunteer Work Day

By Martha E. Morgan, President

Nationally known as A Day of Service to honor the work of Reverend Martin Luther King, HMH holds a Volunteer Work Day (or days!) on the weekend of his birth, and the resulting projects have been significant. Both last year and again this year, one crew whitewashed the cellar, a dirty, hot, difficult job.

The lawns at HMH took a beating during the fall rains which coincided with two large events and were then followed by the Craft Fair. For the latter, we scattered hay in hope of saving some of the root networks of the grass. It succeeded in adding a fall ambience to the site, but the roots were not saved. Having received a bid of \$60,000—yes, four zeroes!—to have the lawn restored professionally, the decision was made to purchase 1,000 square feet of sod and ask volunteers to help us.

Our call was answered! We had Lynn Oakley and Lela Joseph whitewashing with a crew of staff, Dolly Ozols cutting sod for two days, Fred and Roger Brossy planting plugs of grass alongside Martha Morgan, and Dudley Hulbert and daughter Brailey Hirose-Hulbert working side by side. Laurel Husain, Barb Morgan, Leilani Maguire, and Charles Black arrived early for their Family Captains meeting and pitched right in working on the grass. Robert Mist helped out for three full days bringing his Amy Greenwell Botanical Gardens know-how to us. David Cheever, Arleen and Larry Young, Preston Lentz, and Lindsay Mist rounded out the work crew. 🌱



Martha E. Morgan



Above: A group shot of our volunteers and, below, whitewashing the cellar of the 1821 Mission House.



## Give to HMH when you use your Amazon account

Go to <https://smile.amazon.com/ch/99-0073491>. When you get there, log in to your *own* Amazon account and shop away. HMH will get 0.5% of what you spend—and yes, this works with Amazon Prime, too.

# Anniversaries Remind Us of Our Approaching Bicentennial

By Thomas A. Woods, Ph.D., Executive Director

It is amazing to think that the 200th anniversary of the arrival of the missionaries from the American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions (ABCFM) in 1820 will soon be here. We have been thinking about that for the past few years and have begun planning, but I am reminded of the rapid approach of the bicentennial by two other anniversaries this year.

Punahou was founded 175 years ago, in 1841, by the ABCFM missionaries as a school for their children, thus enabling them to end the practice of sending their children back to New England to be raised by relatives and educated in America. You can imagine how closely knit the mission children became. Their parents shared the same religion and worked for the same employer. Their parents had remarkable singleness of purpose and approach, and their families' work occasionally brought the children together. The children whose families worked at the same mission station played together frequently and developed strong childhood relationships. But many of the families lived in widely scattered missions, many on neighbor islands, so they did not see each other daily. Instead, they may have only seen each other at the Hawaiian Mission's Annual Meeting each spring.

With the opening of Punahou, though, the children went to the same school and saw each other daily and shared similar classroom, schoolyard, and leisure ex-

periences. Naturally, they became even more closely knit than they had been and largely remained so throughout their lives. As these Punahou graduates went on for higher education on the continent, their connections continued to strengthen. Many returned to Hawai'i to live, and some later married their mission children friends. Some even went into business together. In these various ways, some stronger and more enduring than others, the Cousins' wove their lives together with various strands, like a lauhala mat. This community of cousins with similar histories and experiences expressed their bond in part by founding our own organization in 1852, the Hawaiian Mission Children's Society (HMCS).

One hundred years ago, in 1916, the HMCS and the Hawaiian Evangelical Society (HEA or Hawaiian Board, as it was sometimes called), the organization of Hawaiian Congregational churches and the successor of the Hawaiian Mission after the mission dissolved in 1863, combined their resources to build the Mission Memorial Building on King Street across from the 1821 Mission House. The HMCS combined a fundraising effort to restore the Chamberlain House with an effort to help build the Mission Memorial Building, and thus raised their goal of \$15,000 for both. Both were conceived as memorials to their "Mission Fathers" (and Mothers, I would add).



Tom Woods

On the second floor, the Mission Memorial Building had offices and meeting rooms dedicated for the free use of the HMCS, and it was here where the first collections "vault" was included for safekeeping of mission records, other documents, and objects. The Hawaiian Board and HMCS agreed that the HMCS would become the custodian of these collections. This custodial agreement continues with the Hawaiian Conference United Church of Christ, (HCUCC) which succeeded the HEA. Our digitization projects highlighted elsewhere in this issue demonstrate our continued custodianship and our determination to make these collections widely available to our members, HCUCC members, and the general public.

On April 16, 1916, one hundred and eighty-six Cousins, nearly double the number from 1915, gathered for the Annual Meeting to dedicate the new Mission Memorial Building and celebrate the evolving new historical preservation mission of the HMCS. Wouldn't it be wonderful and fitting if we were joined by this many members for the 2016 Annual Meeting, one hundred years later, to celebrate how far we have come? 🌺

## Faithful Stewards of This Site

Many faithful trustees and past presidents of the Hawaiian Mission Children's Society have passed away recently and their contributions to this society and the preservation of this site and these archives cannot go without mention.

Trustees Nancy W. Ogburn ( who served 1981 – 83), Jean A. Culbertson (1978 – 1998), and as noted in the last *Maile Wreath*, Spencer Leineweber (2011

– 2015), led restorations of buildings and replanting of landscapes. They chaired committees, served as hostess when called upon, and provided counsel to the organization for decades.

Past presidents Robert R. Midkiff (1948 – 50), John H. R. Plews (1974 – 76), Samuel A. Cooke (1972 – 74), and Mary "Maizie" Sanford (1991 – 1992) served many years before and after their

presidencies. The annual report of 1949 noted that HMCS was responsible both to its membership and to the community of which it is a part. These presidents helped to plan, raise the funds, and build an air-conditioned fireproof archives building to house the precious papers which had been stored in the Mission Memorial Building. This library was already recognized on an international basis as one of the best

(continued on page 4)





Researchers in the reading room of the Hawaiian Mission Houses Archives in June, 2013. As materials are added to our digital collections more researchers have access to information that is not dependent on open hours, handling of fragile materials, or travel to Hawai'i.

## Digitization

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*Continued from page 1*

Conde as well as others, and her deep faith is evident in her entry about the death of her baby Mary before her second birthday.

Travel journals are a special category of journals missionaries kept while on the move. Among the most remarkable of the travel journals kept during the six month voyage from New England to Hawaii is that of Rev. Reuben Tinker who included drawings and a complete description of methods used to catch whales.

Journals written by mission children are particularly striking. David D. Baldwin writing at age 13 is brief and factual, with little comment although he does report what elders discussed. The young boy notes the arrival and departure of every ship in or out of Lahaina. Fanny Perkins Andrews begins on her fourteenth birthday, with entries that are not lengthy but detail the lessons at Lahainaluna School and later at the East Maui Female Seminary. Both young people mention the passage that was the topic of each Sabbath service and provide some news of other young mission children. Most poignant is Fanny's account of her father's death in 1877, in which she worries how her mother and her younger siblings will persevere.

The project to digitize resources of the Hawaiian Mission Houses Historic Site and Archives was begun under a grant from the Institute of Museum and Library Services with matching funds provided by the George N. Wilcox Trust, Samuel W. Wilcox Trust, Elsie H. Wilcox Foundation, Mabel I. Wilcox Foundation Trust, the Fred Baldwin Memorial Foundation, the Cooke Foundation, Hawai'i Council for the Humanities, Christopher Damon Haig, and the Atherton Family Foundation. Other archives now online include the Levi Chamberlain Journals, Mission Station Reports, and the Sandwich Island Mission Journal, among others. Some of the materials in our collection belong to the Hawaii Conference United Church of Christ. We have been custodian of their materials for more than 100 years and in 2011 signed a new agreement to digitize and make their materials as widely available as possible.

It is important to note that we do not "edit" collections and digitize only materials selected to portray a particular point-of-view. That would be irresponsible of a research archive.

We digitize and put everything on the web that is in each of the collections.

Currently, our archivist/librarian John Barker, who deserves much credit for our progress, is digitizing our photograph collection of about 5,200 photographs. Another project that is underway is the digitization of the Chiefs' Letters Collection. This collection, consisting of more than 520 pages of letters written by more than thirty-three Hawaiian chiefs, is currently being transcribed, translated, and annotated by Puakea Nogelmeier and interns working under his tutelage through the Awaiaulu Foundation. Both projects will be completed in 2016. Keep your eyes on our website and this newsletter for more information about these exciting projects.

The HMM strategic goal of making our collections more accessible is clearly being met. To begin your journey into the history of Hawai'i's missionaries visit:

[www.missionhouses.org/library/digital-collection/](http://www.missionhouses.org/library/digital-collection/) 

## Faithful Stewards of This Site

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*Continued from page 3*

resource centers on the history of 19th century Hawai'i.

In 1972 as Sam Cooke took over the presidency from Charles Black, the Mission Houses Museum was first accredited with the American Association of Museums, one of two such museums in Hawai'i. As we reviewed annual reports for half a century, we noticed that common thread of appealing to "cousins" for annual contributions, trying to maintain a professional staff, and planning for the future of the site and archives by bolstering the finances of the society. Maizie Sanford led the first appeal for bequests and legacy gifts by making her own gift.

Each of these individuals served the community as well as the society and set an example to others of philanthropy and leadership. Each was a faithful steward of this site and our resources.



Also lost to our midst this past year was Jennifer Fish Kashay, a highly respected historian of missionaries to Hawai'i, who died suddenly of a heart attack at the age of 49. Dr. Fish Kashay was an associate professor of history at Colorado State University whose academic work focused on missionaries and Hawaiians in the late eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries. She published meticulously researched articles in journals such as the *Hawaiian Journal of History* and the *Pacific Historical Review* and was a dedicated member of the Hawaiian Mission Houses and many other historical organizations. 

# Nā Mele Aloha

*Performances in the Nā Mele series are presented under the stars and swaying palms on Kahua Ho'okipa, our outdoor stage. Hula, song, and chant are presented with the stories and lore behind the music.*

Music and dance and the development of these through our history are once again being celebrated at Hawaiian Mission Houses this year as we present Nā Mele Aloha and explore the many meanings of that all-too-common word “aloha.”

Four years of evolution of our music series continues in 2016 with four events exploring aloha as a welcome, “‘Ano‘ai ke Aloha”; aloha for the ali‘i; aloha between individuals; and aloha for one’s ‘ohana. Scholars and kūpuna will again come together with musicians and kumu hula to express these feelings of aloha in oli, mele, and hula and to share the background stories with our audiences.

Tourists mingle with the local audience and become part of the family for an evening where there are no strangers. Audiences learn the many levels of meaning in Hawaiian poetry, come to appreciate the storytelling of the hula, and respect the underlying cultural messages communicated. Performers and participants learn from each other as stories are exchanged and songs and dances are performed in varying forms. The recordings of these events preserve the content as well as the feeling of each event. Those who cannot attend may learn, and those who did attend may be reminded of what was new.

We will begin with “‘Ano‘ai ke Aloha” to welcome our audiences as one would welcome a stranger into his or her home. We will explore that hospitality that is so special to Hawai‘i. Long before Waikīkī entertainers made “Alooha” their opening call which anticipated a loud echo from the audience of the same, “aloha” was a concept and a feeling rather than a single word of greeting. Early explorers from the West report they received “aroha” from natives as a welcoming greeting.

In May, songs written about the love of the ali‘i will follow. Songs for Kalākaua and the myriad of songs for Ka‘ahumanu may be explored. How the commoners expressed their love for their royalty and the deep affection shown in musical tributes



will be discussed and performed.

The third event will explore romantic love through songs, mele ho‘oipoipo, both those which openly reveal the individuals in such a relationship and those songs which use the imagery of flora and fauna to obscure the specific relationships. The stories behind the compositions will help the audience learn and begin to understand this form of Hawaiian poetry. Many of these songs were written by the four ali‘i composers, Nā Lani ‘Ehā.

Finally, the love of family, Aloha ‘Ohana, will be played, discussed and danced. Families today continue the tradition of writing songs for special occasions; the stories behind the songs will be captured on video for posterity.

Planning meetings with scholars and performers shape each of the final choices for elements of the programs. A varying mix of kupuna, ethnomusicologists, historians, and musicians will introduce the theme of each event and explain the relationship of particular oli, mele, and hula. The scholarly aspect will be rich, but a favorite element of each event to date has been the surprise offering. Last year Joe Recca got up to dance with Pohai Souza, Noelani Mahoe decided she would sing, and when no hula was scheduled, a kumu from the audience danced on the grass.

Beginning at 5:30 p.m. each performance incorporates talk story and additional comments by assembled scholars, performers, and kupuna. After a break about 6:30 – 7:00, the evening continues with both modern and ancient music thematically intermingled. Dialog between performers, scholars, kupuna, and audience members fills the time between the performance numbers and during an intermission and social opportunity over pupu and refreshments. MISSION Cafe will be serving a special menu for each performance

Cultural advisors Aaron Mahi and Sam ‘Olu Gon lead HMH staff in planning the events along with counsel from musician Ken Makuakane and kumu hula Pohai Souza. Their knowledge of the music, performers, and scholars combined with the ideas of the participants during planning meetings helps to mold each evening into a unique experience. Many of those who have performed, such as song writer and musician Kaipo Hale, have asked to be included in the coming year. ‘Ōlelo Community Television will again film the series.

Tickets are available on our website [missionhouses.org](http://missionhouses.org), and there is a discount for the series package of four. 🌀

# Mahalo to our Supporters

*Hawaiian Mission Houses Historic Site and Archives is dependent upon donor support. We sincerely thank the following who made contributions in December 2015 or January 2016.*

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Dolores Furtado Martin Foundation  
\$5,000 for the Chiefs' Letters Project

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And in memory of her son  
Alexander James Culbertson  
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### Giving beyond...

Maizie Sanford led by example in establishing our Legacy Society, and her generosity will live beyond her years as the remainder of her charitable trust comes to HMH this spring.

Maizie is the epitome of the Participating Member of our organization. She enrolled her family as it grew. Whenever we asked for her support—an Annual Fund appeal, a membership drive, the capital fund solicitation—she responded generously. Now

she leaves us a legacy; how wonderfully appropriate!

Have you planned your giving to the Society either in your will, by designating your IRA to us, or by including us in your life insurance? Your personal tax advisor will know best what fits your situation as there are so many choices today. For the younger crowd, consider designating a percentage of your company life insurance or your retirement benefit to HMH. These are easily changed as your circumstances change and secure HMH in your future plans. ☺





## Annual Meeting

*Continued from page 1*

County celebration of Mission Memorial Building's 100th Anniversary at 2 p.m.

End the day on our site with a special edition of History Theatre. Friday, 7:30 p.m. \$30 per person includes pupu and beverage. Simon Peter Kalama, played by Moses Goods, relates his life story and tells you about saving his friend Dr. Judd from a volcano. Annie Alexander, daughter of Samuel Alexander, played by Rasa Fournier, will share her amazing story as a paleontologist.

On Saturday, come for coffee and registration at 9:30 a.m. The 164th Annual Meeting will be called to order at 10 a.m. Hear reports, elect new Trustees, and be a part of the annual roll call. (Note: The Slate of Trustees will be available for your review on our website at [www.mission-houses.org](http://www.mission-houses.org) under HMCS or at our offices.

Lunch can be pre-ordered from the MISSION cafe or sit under our tent and share a family picnic or potluck.

The afternoon will be full of activities for the whole community. This is one of two open houses a year and features free tours of the houses, with stationed interpretation. Come explore with us! ☺

## R.S.V.P.

### Friday, April 15, 9:00 a.m. Breakfast

with Executive Director Tom Woods and Board President Martha Morgan  
*Please let us know if you are coming, so we have enough food!*

Number attending X No host

Followed by tour of Archives by reservation

Number attending X FREE

### Friday, 5:30 – 7:30 p.m. History Theatre at HMH

Simon Peter Kalama and Annie Alexander  
*Includes pupu and drink*

\$

Number attending X \$30 = Subtotal

### Saturday, April 16 Annual Meeting

9:30 coffee, 10:00 call to order

*Please let us know who is coming, so we can better plan the day!*

Number attending X FREE

### Saturday Lunch

Pre-order your lunch made by MISSION.

*Lunches include 'Olona Lemonade or Mamaki Iced Tea and a small dessert.*

**Lū'au Stew** \_\_ with Roast Pork or \_\_ Vegetarian

\$

Quantity X \$16 = Subtotal

**Sandwich Combo** \_\_ Turkey or \_\_ Egg salad

\$

comes with antipasti, and kalo and uala Chip

Quantity X \$18 = Subtotal

I would also like to make a donation to HMCS \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Daytime Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

Check payable to HMCS enclosed

**Grand Total \$** \_\_\_\_\_

Charge my Credit Card:  VISA  M/C  AmEx

Name on Card \_\_\_\_\_

Card Number \_\_\_\_\_

Exp. Date \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_



Hawaiian Mission Houses  
Historic Site and Archives

553 South King Street  
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813-3002

Non-Profit Organization  
U.S. Postage  
**Paid**  
Honolulu, Hawai'i  
Permit Number 913

### Hawaiian Mission Houses Historic Site and Archives

553 South King Street  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813-3002

Telephone: 808-447-3910  
Fax: 808-545-2280  
www.missionhouses.org  
info@missionhouses.org

#### Historic Site Hours

Tuesday – Saturday, 10 am to 4 pm

#### Archives Hours

Tuesday – Friday, 10 am to 4 pm

#### Mission Social Hall and Café

Tuesday – Saturday, 11 am to 2 pm  
Telephone: 447-3913

#### Admission

Historic House Tour: \$10  
Kama'āina, Military, Senior: \$8  
College student (with Valid ID): \$6  
17 years or under with parent: FREE  
Participating Members: FREE

#### Guided Tours

Chamberlain Exhibit, Printing Office,  
and 1821 Mission House  
Tue – Sat, 11 am, 12, 1, 2, 3 pm

#### Kama'āina Day

Last Saturday of the month. 10 am – 4 pm  
Discounted admission of \$4 with valid  
Hawai'i ID.

Hawaiian Mission Houses Historic Site and  
Archives is the business name of the Hawaiian  
Mission Children's Society (HMCS), a 501(c)3  
not-for-profit organization founded in 1852.



#### OFFICIAL NOTICE

*The 164th Annual Meeting  
of the  
Hawaiian Mission Children's Society  
will be held  
Saturday, April 16 at 10:00 a.m.  
at Kahua Ho'okipa on the grounds of  
Hawaiian Mission Houses*

### Special History Theatre Performance scheduled for April 15

A special edition of History Theatre  
will be presented on Friday, April 15,  
5:30 – 7:30 p.m. Simon Peter  
Kalama, played by Moses Goods,  
relates his life story and tells you  
about saving his friend Dr. Judd from  
a volcano. Annie Alexander, daugh-  
ter of Samuel Alexander, played by  
Rasa Fournier, will share her amazing  
story as a pioneer paleontologist and  
geologist. \$30 per person includes  
pupu and beverage. Make reservatio-  
ns online or with the form on page 7 of  
this issue of the *Maile Wreath*.

### Upcoming Events

#### Nā Mele Aloha

#### 'Ano'ai ke Aloha

Saturday, March 12, 2016, 5:30 – 8 p.m.

#### Open House

Saturday, April 16, 2016

Noon to 4 p.m. Free admission, family  
activities, and tours

#### Nā Mele Aloha

#### Aloha Ali'i

Saturday, May 14, 2016, 5:30 – 8 p.m.

#### Cemetery Pupu Theatre

#### Muses of Hawai'i

Friday and Saturday,  
June 17 and 18, 24 and 25, 2016

#### Nā Mele Aloha

#### Aloha Ho'oiipoipo

Saturday, July 16, 2016, 5:30 – 8 p.m.

### Two Gentlemen of Verona by William Shakespeare

Friday and Saturday, August 12, 13, and  
19, 20, and 26, 27, 2016

For more information and to purchase  
tickets visit our website mission houses.  
org or call 808-447-3926.