

Spirit of Aloha Oceanfront Botanical Gardens

“Anoai ke welina me ke aloha pakahi apau. Aloha ke Akua”. My name is Puanani Mahoe. I am a *kanaka maoli*, native Hawaiian *kupuna wahine*, woman elder as well as a teacher and healer of the tradition and wisdom of the culture of this *aina*, land. My *ha*, breath and *iwi*, bones come from here. I am a living, breathing and a treasured sovereign heritage, *maoli ea* of *Akua*, God and continue with the line of *koko*, blood of my *kupuna kuamu*, ancestors as well as their ambassador of *Aloha*. My *kupuna kuamu* walk ahead of me, guiding me along this journey of balance and peace. They stand behind me to support this walk of *aloha*-love, *ihi*-respect and *oiai*’o-honesty.

The Spirit of Aloha Oceanfront Botanical Gardens offers guidance in humanity’s quest to live in balance with nature. The Gardens are dedicated to the Oneness of World Religions and Spiritual Teachings exemplifying twelve core values that are the foundation of the Spirit of Aloha. The need to perpetuate the Spirit of Aloha in the heart and mind of human consciousness is important for us to continue our part in teaching Universal Human Rights and Principles.

Aloha, love is a universal principal. It is a right that belongs to everyone and everything. *“Ka maluhia a me ka ma’alahi”*. Peace and contentment. Where there is love, there is peace, *maluhia*(“*me ka maluhia me oe*”) and contentment, *ma’alahi*(simplicity) as well as: happiness, *hauoli*(*me ka hauoli*); respect, *ihi*; tolerance, *ahonui*; humility, *ha’aha’a*(*O wau no me ka ha’aha’a, I am humbly yours...in service*); honesty, *pono*(*Ua mau ke ea o ka aina I ka pono*); cooperation, *laulima*; unity, *lokahi*(*lokahi ku pa’a*); responsibility, *kuleana*(*ke kuleana o ke kanaka*); and of course, freedom, *noa*(*ua lele, ua noa*).

The aforementioned are the twelve core values and part of the mission statement of the Spirit of Aloha Oceanfront Botanical Gardens. They are actual gardens dedicated to the Spirit of Aloha as well as the Natural Laws and Order of All Things. Each garden represents a core value and these values are the foundation of all World Religions. At this time and age, *Aloha* is needed for us to overcome more terrorism, violence and wars. It is important through culture and tradition, education, Universal Human Rights and Principles that *Aloha* continues to be taught to future generations. It is our *kuleana* to ensure the planting and cultivation of these seeds. Before my children were born, I was tempted by the overall cynicism of our age. But when you know that your children and your children’s children will be here after you, you suddenly realize that you have a very real responsibility to future generations.

The Spirit of Aloha Oceanfront Botanical Gardens is a place where people are given the opportunity to learn and experience, live and practice and in reality, become living testimonies of the Spirit of Aloha, cultivating their inner foundation through the practice of these core values. Therefore, your support and approval of the Spirit of Aloha Oceanfront Botanical Gardens are needed to continue with the work to preserve/

perpetuate, cultivate and sustain in appropriateness the balance of this wonderful culture, tradition and wisdom.

For this I bless you most. You give much and know not that you give at all...

May we remember to BE Aloha. Please be good and kind to each other. Mahalo ke Akua.

Puanani Mahoe

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Testimony on behalf of the Spirit of Aloha Oceanfront Botanical Gardens

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