

ANNUAL
REPORT
2025



FORWARD TOGETHER

2025 ANNUAL REPORT

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Forward Together: 45 Years Serving the People of Hawai'i

Hawai'i Public Radio's inaugural broadcast on November 13, 1981 was the realization of a dream shared by a dedicated group of community volunteers determined to bring public radio service to the State of Hawai'i. These Charter Members and Founding President & General Manager Cliff Eblen and Founding Chair John Henry Felix are the giants upon whose shoulders we stand today. As we go forward together, the dream of a vibrant, trusted and independent HPR serving all of Hawai'i burns bright in each and every individual, family, local business, foundation or community organization who are a part of the HPR family.

IN MEMORIAM: We remember with warmth and deep gratitude Ian Capps, who created and hosted *The Early Muse* on HPR-2 for 21 years until his passing in September 2025 and Francis Oda, member of the HPR Board of Directors and Chair Emeritus who passed away in February of this year.



A Message from HPR's Board Chair and CEO

2025 was a phenomenal year for Hawai'i Public Radio, one where the people we serve rallied around us with groundbreaking support in the face of unprecedented challenges to public media.

It's remarkable that instead of weakening HPR, the July 2025 cuts to federal funding had the opposite effect. We are profoundly grateful to move into 2026, our first full year as a 100% community-supported service, with strength and confidence. The people we inform, inspire and connect every day are making this possible. We mahalo the individuals, families, local businesses, community organizations, foundations and HPR fans everywhere for their support.

This support enables us to tackle an ambitious agenda in the coming year. Trusted local news is vital to functioning communities. In 2026, we'll focus on key issues Hawai'i cares about, including local government, affordability, climate, nature and energy, culture and the arts, and Hawai'i's unique place in the Pacific region at large.

Digital expansion is a key way for HPR to reach and serve new audiences. You'll see more creative storytelling on our website, app, via social media and in our newsletters Akamai Recap and HPR Social Club.

Growing distinctive local programming is a priority, and we will continue to introduce new shows, segments and franchises on-air and

online, across news, storytelling and music.

We believe that in-person connections are a powerful antidote to polarization and isolation. HPR will continue to participate in events across the islands. This includes a new season of Live From the Atherton, with a range of local music performances, storytellers and speakers.

There's a lot to look forward to in the year ahead, including a big birthday: Hawai'i Public Radio turns 45 on November 13, 2026. Throughout the year, we will be celebrating and honoring where we've been, together with our community, and the sparkling, bright future ahead.

With gratitude and aloha,



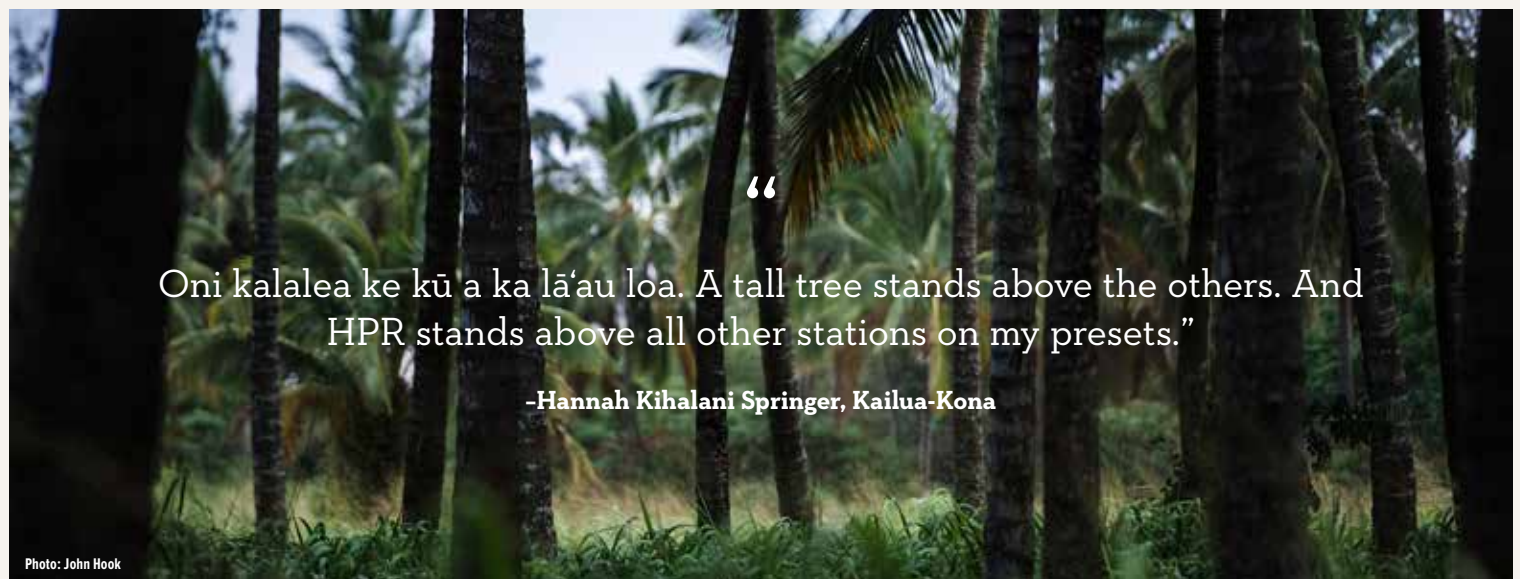
A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Joe Uno'.

Joe Uno
Chair, HPR Board of Directors



A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Meredith Artley'.

Meredith Artley
HPR President & CEO



“

Oni kalalea ke kū a ka lā'au loa. A tall tree stands above the others. And HPR stands above all other stations on my presets.”

-Hannah Kihalani Springer, Kailua-Kona

Photo: John Hook



TRUSTED NEWS, COMPELLING STORIES



Kandi Miranda, right, and her daughter Dioni, outside of ChefZone. Photo: HPR (Tori DeJournett)

The Conversation Brings a Local View to National Events

The Conversation, HPR's flagship news show, provides locally-focused discussions about public affairs, ideas, culture and the arts. With topics ranging from conversations with the mayors of each county about their community's priorities to rural health care, and from endangered species to tourism to live call-in shows on cess pools and immigration, listeners will always find ideas and stories worth further exploration, all with a local angle.

With unprecedented funding cuts taking place at the federal level, *The Conversation's* news team is focusing on how these changes are affecting local families, businesses and organizations. When the federal government temporarily shutdown last fall, many Hawai'i residents lost their Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) benefits. *The Conversation* took a closer look at the impact of these cuts and visited grocery stores to ask shoppers about their purchases. Producer DW Gibson's segment, "What's in Your Cart?" went viral, reaching 34k+ views on Instagram and 11k+ views on Facebook.

More information on the "What's in Your Cart?" series can be found at:
hawaiipublicradio.org/cart

“

HPR represents the perfect mix of local, national and international news and programming that does not cloud factual information with journalist opinions. The wide array of programming, including light-hearted weekend shows, storytelling, international music, great jazz, classical and local weeknight programming are so valuable to all generations of residents. Mahalo for all you do!”

-Kashmira Reid, Honolulu





Photo: HPR (Mark Ladao)

Tracking Hawai‘i’s Invasive Species

As one of the world’s most remote island chains, the issues of climate, environment and biodiversity are critical to Hawai‘i’s future. This year, HPR featured ongoing coverage on invasive species, from coqui frogs to coconut rhinoceros beetles (CRBs).

While the CRBs are pervasive on O‘ahu, efforts are being made to keep them out of neighbor islands. In June, HPR’s Mark Ladao covered attempts to eradicate them from Kona on Hawai‘i Island, and later in the year, Moloka‘i and Lāna‘i’s initiatives to keep those islands free of the beetle.

The coqui frog initially invaded Hawai‘i Island, and now pockets of them have been found on other islands. Savannah Harriman-Pote covered their expansion into Waimānalo and the threat they pose to Hawai‘i’s native insects, underscoring HPR’s commitment to this important topic.

Maui Fires, Aftermath & Recovery

Throughout the past year, HPR’s news team and Maui Nui reporter Catherine Cluett Pactol reported on recovery efforts in Lahaina and Kula after the devastating wildfires in 2023.

We reported on the first two homes to be rebuilt in the burn zones in late November 2024 in Lahaina and Kula. In December 2025, HPR’s coverage celebrated more than 100 families moving home. Another uplifting story included highlighting the Kaiāulu Initiatives, a project to reforest the land above Lahaina with native plants.

HPR’s coverage also documented the not-so-celebratory stories regarding the affordability crisis on Maui, how survivors are navigating the end of FEMA housing support and demands that survivors pay rent while they rebuild. In addition, we continue to cover the range of legal settlements related to the wildfires. We remain committed to telling the story of the recovery from all angles.



Kaiāulu Initiatives volunteer Poppy Hudson uses a gravity-fed hose to water native plants on the hillside above Lahaina. Photo: HPR (Catherine Cluett Pactol)



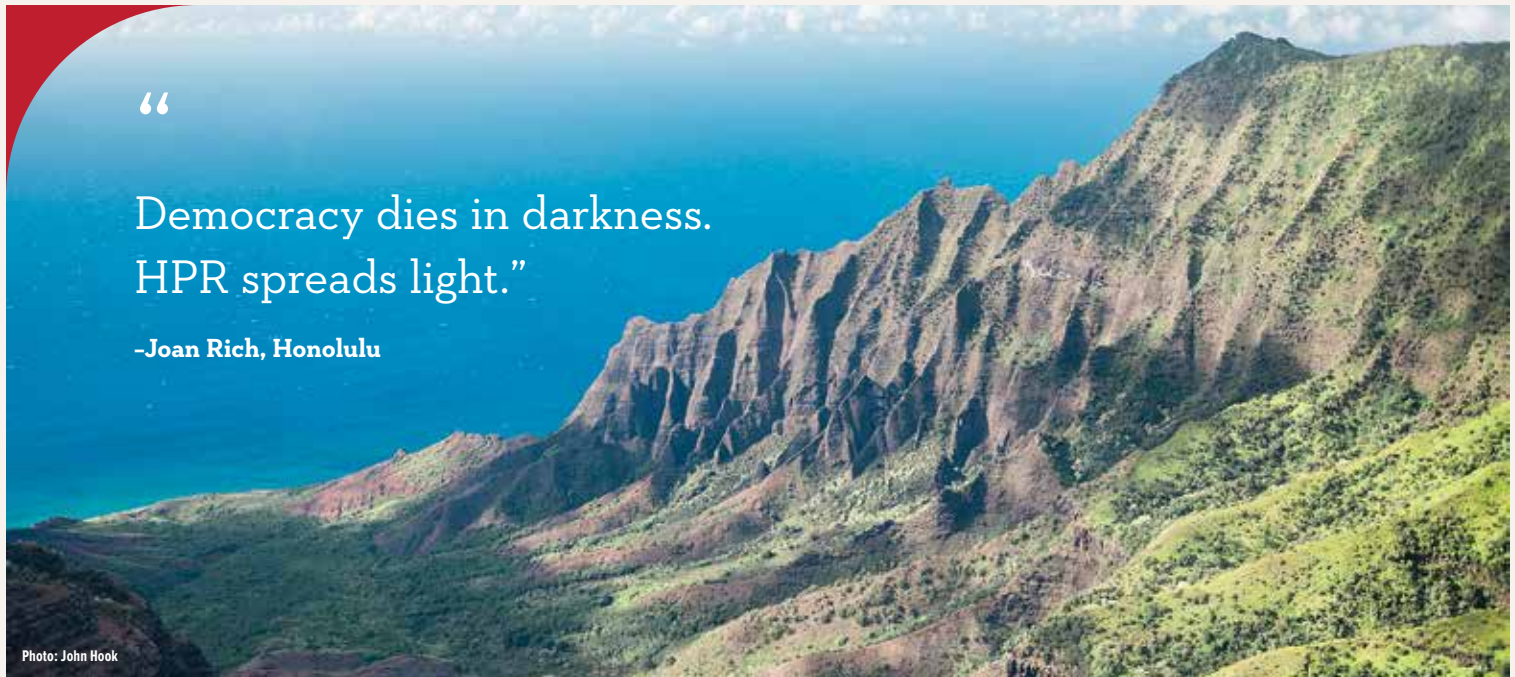
Hōkūle‘a arrives at Kualoa Regional Park on March 8, 2025, to celebrate 50 years of sailing. Photo: HPR (Cassie Ordonio)

Hōkūle‘a Continues its Journey

HPR has followed the journeys of Hawai‘i’s voyaging canoes since the station began 45 years ago. This year, the Hōkūle‘a is celebrating 50 years of wayfinding. Culture & Arts Reporter Cassie Ordonio reported on the canoes’ return to the sea in May 2025 to embark on Moananuiākea, a three-year journey around the Pacific Ocean where crew members reconnect with the ancestral roots of wayfinding.

Hōkūle‘a and Hikianalia traveled from Hawai‘i to New Zealand (traditionally known as Aotearoa), where they waited out the South Pacific hurricane season. When they return to their journey in 2026, the canoes plan to sail to Tonga, Sāmoa and American Sāmoa. You can be sure HPR will be beside the canoes to cover this inspiring cultural journey around the Pacific Ocean sharing the voices and experiences of the navigators from key stops along the way.





“

Democracy dies in darkness.
HPR spreads light.”

-Joan Rich, Honolulu

Photo: John Hook

Most Listened to Radio Stations and Award-Winning Local Journalism

This year provided many opportunities for HPR’s news team to examine the world through local eyes, especially as big changes at the federal level impacted communities across Hawai‘i. HPR’s trusted coverage garnered these recent accolades:

The stations of HPR are now the most listened to across the Hawaiian Islands, according to the latest ratings from Nielsen. Being #1 in Hawai‘i for time spent listening is a special achievement.

Hawai‘i Public Radio was named best overall news site and swept two top categories – eight awards total – in the Excellence in Journalism Contest, presented by the Society of Professional Journalists Hawai‘i Chapter.

We are deeply grateful for the time our listeners and readers spend with us. A complete list of awards can be found online at hawaiipublicradio.org/awards

The Edward R. Murrow Awards are among the most prestigious in broadcast and digital news. In 2025, HPR’s news team won two Regional Edward R. Murrow Awards for coverage in 2024.

News Series

Wildfire Vulnerability Series

By Ashley Mizuo, Government Reporter and Savannah Harriman-Pote, Energy & Climate Change Reporter

Sports Reporting

Moloka‘i channel races reflect cultural traditions and family ties to paddling.

By Catherine Cluett Pactol, Maui Nui Reporter



Moloka‘i’s Wa‘akapaemua Canoe Club crosses the open ocean during the Nā Wāhine O Ke Kai race. Photo: HPR (Catherine Cluett Pactol)



A car is seen at the entrance of the Waikōloa Emergency Route on Hawai‘i Island. Photo: HPR (Savannah Harriman-Pote)

WHAT EXCITES YOU ABOUT YOUR WORK AT HPR?



“Every day at HPR, I learn something new, often through the work of my colleagues – Ashley Mizuo taught me everything I know about Hawai i’s government; from Maddie Bender’s work on *The Conversation*, I know why native honeycreepers have curved beaks; and Pixie Clay’s Foodie Friday column gave me my go-to shoyu chicken recipe. My own work gives me the chance to learn about truly unique environments, from what’s going on inside a volcano to the rare species that exist only in Hawai i’s most remote places.”

Savannah Harriman-Pote
Energy & Climate Change Reporter



“I’m a perpetually curious person, and I love that working at HPR constantly exposes me to new ideas and places. I joke sometimes that being a reporter lets me ask “third date” questions to relative strangers. As a manager, I feel fulfilled when I can enable my team to create powerful radio moments – from fostering dialogue through live call-in shows to immersing listeners in the sounds of Hawai i with deeply reported segments from the field.”

Maddie Bender
Executive Producer, *The Conversation*



“While radio is at the heart of HPR’s service, our website and social media channels are the first points of contact for thousands of HPR fans (and prospective supporters). We’ll need to continue meeting people where they are online and on their phones – an exciting yet slightly daunting prospect. But none of that is possible without our news team’s stellar reporting and sense of community. Each time someone mentions seeing us online is a drop in my already full bucket of fulfillment.”

Sophia McCullough
Digital News Editor

INSPIRING MUSIC, ARTS, AND CULTURE

A Shared Space for Sound, Story and Community

HPR's flagship event series, Live from the Atherton, is hosted in our own Atherton Performing Arts Studio. With sound and performance at the forefront, this gathering space is intentionally designed for intimate experiences.

This year, in addition to our Mele Hawai'i, Classical, Jazz and Celebrate808 performance series, we welcomed local authors to share their work in depth and interact with interested audiences, allowing attendees the opportunity to engage with the poetics of Hawai'i's past and present.

HPR was proud to welcome these authors and storytellers:

- 'Ōlelo Hawai'i author Dr. Jon Osorio
- Fiction authors Megan Kamalei Kakimoto and Kristiana Kahakauwila
- Young Adult authors Lurline McGregor and Nikki Van De Car
- Keiki authors Pua Aquino and Kealani Netane

Mahalo to series sponsor HMSA.

See videos from HPR's Live from the Atherton series at:
hawaiipublicradio.org/watch



Osorio in The Atherton Studio. Photo: HPR (Liberty Peralta)

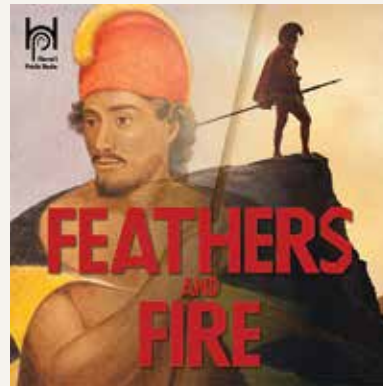


Photo: HPR

Context, Culture and Conversation: Exploring *Chief of War* with *Feathers and Fire*

With the debut of the Apple TV+ series *Chief of War*, which chronicles the rise of King Kamehameha and his efforts to unify the islands before Western colonization in the late 18th century, HPR launched a companion podcast called *Feathers and Fire*.

HPR's Russell Subiono, VP of Programming and Content Development, and University of Hawai'i Hawaiian Studies instructor Mehana Maka'ina'i host *Feathers and Fire*. Each podcast episode provides additional context and commentary on the history portrayed in the TV series, offering deeper insight into Hawaiian practices, perspectives and storytelling, honoring Hawaiian culture while reflecting on the series' significance for Kānaka in the film industry.

Find *Feathers and Fire* on Apple Podcasts, Spotify and hawaiipublicradio.org.

Celebrating Youth In Studio, On Stage, and On Screen: *The Arrangements*

In partnership with the 2025 'Ohina Short Film Showcase, HPR hosted an exclusive screening that paired a live performance by Hawai'i Youth Symphony (HYS) with the premiere of *The Arrangements*, a 15-minute short film set in Kalihi that follows 12-year-old Micronesian boys navigating loss through resilience and adventure. Eight students from HYS recorded the original film score by composer Michael Thomas Foumai at HPR's Atherton Studio. Following the screening, HPR Culture and Arts Reporter Cassie Ordonio hosted a Q&A with film writer and director Sonny Ganaden, producer Gerard Elmore and Foumai. HPR is proud to support this community collaboration that amplifies youth voices on and off screen through the power of the arts.



Hawai'i Youth Symphony with Hawai'i Symphony Orchestra's Michael-Thomas Foumai. Photo: Shangri La



Lehuauakea. Photo: Garrett Vreeland



Inside the Design: Lehuauakea Designs HPR's Member T-Shirt

This year's limited-edition member t-shirt is designed by Hawai'i Island artist Lehuauakea. Inspired by the 'ōlelo no'ēau selected for the shirt — "A'ōhe pu'u ki'eki'e ke ho'ā'o 'ia e pi'i. No cliff is so tall that it cannot be scaled," they developed the design drawing from their practice as a contemporary kapa maker and the rich tradition of Hawaiian geometric patterning.

Lehuauakea recently had a kapa painting officially acquired by the Smithsonian National Museum of the American Indian, marking a significant milestone in their growing national recognition.

More Local Programming That Inspires and Brings Joy

- **HPR Hō'ike** (Sundays at 1pm on HPR-1) is a new weekly showcase for music and storytelling events produced by HPR. Enjoy Live from the Atherton performances featuring local musicians and thoughtful discussions with local authors, practitioners and artists.
- **Hawai'i Radio Hour** at Kahilu (Sundays at 4pm on HPR-1) is a weekly variety show that brings together news, mo'olelo (stories), 'ike kūpuna (ancestral knowledge), mele (music), and voices from the community.
- **HPR After Hours** (weeknights 10-12am on HPR-1) lets HPR hosts craft your late night soundtrack with selections ranging from Jazz and Funk to Pacific Rim artists and from Soul to Country and Reggae.
- **Hawai'i Symphony Orchestra** broadcasts (coming in April to HPR-2) lets listeners enjoy full-length performances by our own HSO from the 2024/25 Masterworks season.



WHAT'S THE EXPERIENCE YOU WANT SOMEONE TO HAVE WHILE LISTENING TO YOUR SHOW?



"I want *Evening Concert* to serve as a nightly journey, using thematic selections to bridge the gap between listeners and cultures across the globe. I hope that by tuning in, people can unwind and relax, yet still feel the excitement of discovering new stories and ideas through sound. I view my show as a way to end the day with a sense of curiosity and a realization of how connected we all are through music."

Marcus Moore
Evening Concert



"Through my selections for *Brazilian Experience* – for the birthday or passing of a particular artist, regional genres, a commemorative date, or my earworm for the week – I hope the listener will experience a range of emotions – from Bossa Nova, relaxation, to exhilaration and the desire to get up and dance to lively Samba or Frevo, or for the Brazilian listener: saudade. I hope *Brazilian Experience* sparks listeners' interest in independent research about the performer, composer, instrument or cultural roots."

Sandy Tsukiyama
Brazilian Experience



"For 16 years – from KTUH college radio to Los Angeles flagship KCRW and now Hawai'i Public Radio – I've built music experiences rooted in curiosity and connection. As Executive Producer of Music, I elevate programming from on-air music curation to in-person events – leading our new *After Hours* late-night series, overseeing broader music initiatives, producing Live From the Atherton, and supporting our exceptional team of music hosts. Together, we're shaping music experiences that feel vibrant, intentional, and distinctly Hawai'i."

Zilla Barbosa
Executive Producer of Music
Former host, *Bridging the Gap* (3 years)

Photos: HPR (Sylvia Flores)



Listen And Learn

JOE FERRARO

HONOLULU, O'AHU

ARCHITECT, CO-FOUNDER FERRARO CHOI

HPR MEMBER AND CORPORATE SPONSOR

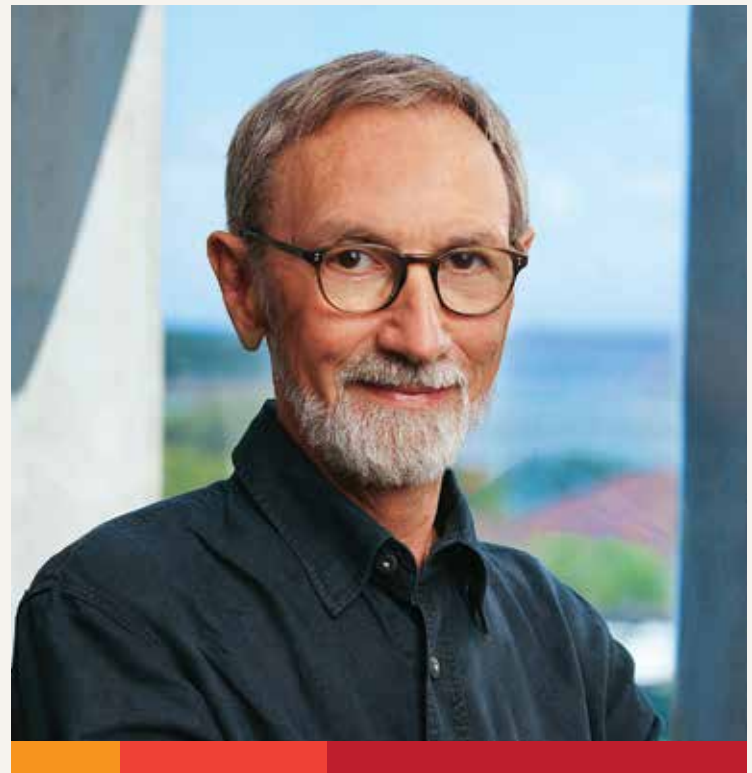


Photo courtesy of Joe Ferraro

For Joe Ferraro, architecture is as much about listening as it is about concepting, crafting, and building physical forms. As the Co-Founder of Ferraro Choi, Joe has spent decades designing buildings that respond to climate, culture, and community, with Hawai'i serving as both home and teacher. From island environments to global landscapes, Ferraro Choi has been instrumental in shaping the way we interact with our built environments, and for more than 25 years, it has been a corporate supporter of HPR.

You're originally from the East Coast. What brought you to Hawai'i?

I came to Hawai'i from New York in the early 1980s to attend the University of Hawai'i's Architecture master's program. I've always been really interested in understanding what "sense of place" truly meant and exploring how architecture could respond to nature, culture, and environment in a meaningful way. Hawai'i was the perfect classroom for that.

How has that idea of place shaped your work over the years?

Understanding place is foundational. Every project starts there. Climate, landscape, culture, history, they all inform the design. Whether we're working in Hawai'i, Greenland, the South Pacific, or even Antarctica, that same approach applies. You can't impose a solution. You have to listen first.

Why is community support, especially for organizations like HPR, important to you?

HPR plays a critical role in connecting people across Hawai'i, and that's never been more important, especially considering the headwinds we're up against. We've been committed to supporting public radio for decades. Our support started close to home. My daughter was working in public relations and really encouraged us to step up and support causes we believe in. Once we did, it just felt right. Years later, we're still here, still supporting, because we believe in the importance of supporting public radio.

Do you have a favorite HPR show or listening habit?

That's a tough one; there's so much good content. Public radio has become a daily part of my life. I listen to national programs like *Left, Right & Center* and local programs like *The Conversation*, but honestly, the

beauty of HPR is the range. There's always something new to learn if you take the time to listen.

What role do you think HPR plays in Hawai'i's future?

Connection. HPR creates a shared space for dialogue, learning, and understanding. In a place as geographically spread out as Hawai'i, that kind of connective tissue is essential. It helps us feel less isolated and more like a community.



COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS

“

I listen to HPR with my 10 year old son on the way to school, and the stories on HPR have been amazing conversation starters with him. My son is curious about the world around him and listening to HPR gives us a window into talking about Hawai'i's challenges and strengths! ”

-Justin & Yuka Polovina, Honolulu

Photo: John Hook



Photo: Mark Tarone

Wait Wait...Don't Tell Me!

Fans of listener favorite NPR's *Wait Wait... Don't Tell Me!*, cheered and packed Honolulu's Blaisdell Concert Hall for two live events with host Peter Sagal, judge and scorekeeper Alzo Slade, and special guests. Thursday evening panelists Joyelle Nicole Johnson, Paula Poundstone and Peter Grosz, welcomed Not My Job guest, 'ukulele virtuoso Taimane. On Friday, Olympic gold medalist surfer Carissa Moore joined panelists Dulcé Sloan, Helen Hong and Shane O'Neill. VIP ticket holders met our special guests at a post-show reception. In addition, Big Island fans had an opportunity to talk story with Peter Sagal and HPR's Bill Dorman and Ashley Mizuo at a by-invitation event in Waimea.



Photo: HPR (Sylvia Flores)

HPR Social Club

With its first edition launching in June 2025, HPR Social Club is a weekly curated events newsletter designed to highlight unique and can't-miss experiences happening across Hawai'i. Delivered on Wednesday, each edition offers a diverse and curated selection of events to help audiences stay curious and connected across the islands. HPR's newest digital offering is a discovery guide for local arts, culture and community happenings. Sign up at hawaiipublicradio.org/socialclub.



Meet and Greet Events on Kaua'i

Mahalo to the Hale Lihū'e Community Center, Indivisible Kaua'i, and Kaua'i Concert Assn who hosted meet and greet events with HPR's Meredith Artley, staff and local community advisory board members and volunteers.



Photo: HPR (Val Yee)



Photo: HPR (Crag DeSilva)



Photo: HPR (Ananddev Banerjee)

HPR Live at Kahilu

HPR fans gathered at the Kahilu Theatre in Waimea for storytelling, music and a live taping of two HPR programs. *The Conversation's* Catherine Cruz spoke with Dr. Billy Bergin, Parker Ranch historian and author, and with UH Hilo's Dr. Patrick Hart, creator of the "Manu Minute." Musician and educator Kainani Kahaunaale performed and spoke with *Kanikapila Sunday* host Keali'iloma.

Maui Mele Memories

Maui supporters joined Hawai'i Kulāwi host DJ Mermaid (Paige Okamura) and Maui-raised musician and storyteller Kamakakēhau Fernandez at Maui Academy of Performing Arts for a talk story session and curated listening experience exploring music inspired by Maui. Guests enjoyed several selections performed live by the Na Hōkū Hanohano award-winning Fernandez.

Modern Voices Lounge at Honolulu Night Market

Community members found connection, affirmation and a place to be heard as they reflected and contributed recordings in response to guided questions about heritage, 'ohana, kūpuna wisdom, and what it means to persevere in modern spaces during visits to the Modern Voices Lounge at the Honolulu Night Market. A collaboration with Kamehameha Schools, HPR facilitated the story collection process.



By the Numbers

Serving listeners and readers throughout Hawai'i and beyond with multiplatform content

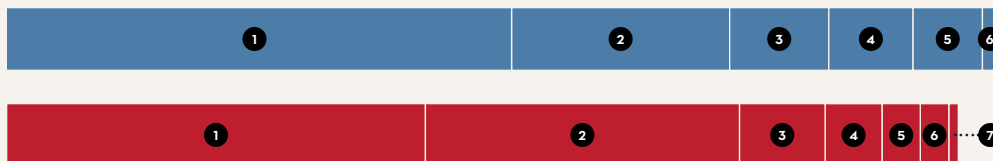
Thanks to steadfast support from current and new givers throughout the community, HPR concluded fiscal year 2024-2025 with a balanced budget, a balance sheet free of debt and a clean fiscal audit.

Federal support for public media ended as the new fiscal year got underway in July 2025. We are grateful to the many HPR fans who continue to step forward to bridge this gap.

HPR'S FISCAL YEAR 2024/2025

REVENUE: \$8,698,135

- 1 MEMBERSHIP
51% | \$4,464,048
- 2 CORPORATE SUPPORT / UNDERWRITING
22% | \$1,898,035
- 3 FOUNDATIONS / INVESTMENTS / EVENTS / OTHER
10% | \$856,412
- 4 ENDOWMENT GIFTS/EARNINGS
8.5% | \$743,100
- 5 CORPORATION FOR PUBLIC BROADCASTING
7% | \$603,370
- 6 RESTRICTED GRANT / OTHER REVENUE
1.5% | \$133,170



EXPENSES: \$8,128,576

- 1 PROGRAMMING
44% | \$3,562,995
- 2 SUPPORT SERVICES
33% | \$2,656,746
- 3 OCCUPANCY (RENT, BUILDING MAINTENANCE, UTILITIES)
9% | \$685,243
- 4 CONTRACT SERVICES (ENGINEERING, IT, LEGAL, CALL CENTER, AUDITOR)
6% | \$574,562
- 5 TELECOM, POSTAGE, PRINTING
4% | \$277,000
- 6 EQUIPMENT & SUPPLIES
3% | \$268,202
- 7 INSURANCE
1% | \$103,828

AUDIENCES:

- ~ 184,000 weekly radio listeners
- ~ 300,000 monthly streaming sessions
- ~ 205,000 monthly unique users to hawaiipublicradio.org
- ~ 60,000 combined newsletter subscribers
- ~ 55,000 social media followers

The Most Listened to Stations Across the Islands



NEWS, TALK, ENTERTAINMENT & A VARIETY OF MUSIC

	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	
MIDNIGHT	Blues from the Basement	Echoes					New Sounds	
1 AM		BBC News					BBC News	
2 AM								
3 AM	BBC News							
4 AM								
5 AM		Morning Edition					Weekend Edition	
6 AM	Weekend Edition							
7 AM								
8 AM		Here and Now					The Splendid Table	
9 AM	New Yorker Radio Hour							
10 AM	Wait, Wait... Don't Tell Me!						Wait, Wait... Don't Tell Me!	
11 AM	Hidden Brain	The Conversation					Radiolab	
NOON	Fresh Air Weekend	All Things Considered					This American Life	
1 PM	HPR Hō'ike	The World				Science Friday	The Moth Radio Hour	
2 PM	Kanikapila Sunday	On Point					TED Radio Hour	
3 PM		Fresh Air					Selected Shorts	
4 PM	Hawai'i Radio Hour	All Things Considered					It's Been A Minute / Wild Card	
5 PM	All Things Considered							
6 PM		Marketplace					American Routes	
6:30 PM	Hawai'i Kulāwiwi	Asian View (6:30) / The Daily (6:35)				Bytemarks Café		
7 PM	Brazilian Experience	On the Media	Freakonomics	Reveal	Embodied	Left, Right and Center		
8 PM		Evening Jazz					World Cafe	The Real Deal
9 PM	The Real Deal							
10 PM		After Hours: Electronic Soul	After Hours: Ua Noa	After Hours: Jazz & Funk Sessions	After Hours: Country Detours	After Hours: Mundo Reggae	Blues from the Basement	
11 PM	B-Sides and Beyond							



YOUR HOME FOR CLASSICAL MUSIC

	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
MIDNIGHT	Classical 24						Classical 24
1 AM							
2 AM							
3 AM							
4 AM							
5 AM							
6 AM							
7 AM		Morning Café / Morning Concert					Howard's Day Off
8 AM	With Heart and Voice						
9 AM	Sunday Brunch						
10 AM							
11 AM		Performance Today					Classical 24
NOON	Sunday Baroque						
1 PM		Exploring Music					Opera
2 PM	Sunday Baroque						
3 PM	Seasonal Concerts/ Classical 24	Classical Pacific					Opera
4 PM							
5 PM		Evening Concert					Classical 24
6 PM	Howard's Day Off						
7 PM		Classical 24					Symphony Cast
8 PM	Classical 24						Seasonal Concerts
9 PM		Classical 24					
10 PM		Classical 24					Harmonia
11 PM							

The Music Maker

KAMAKAHUKILANI PLUNKETT

HAU'ULA, KO'OLAULOA, O'AHU

MUSICIAN, STUDENT

FORMER HPR PRODUCTION & OPERATIONS INTERN



Kamakahukilani Plunkett in center, with 'Auli'ikahokuikamalanai Tu'uuaiaia Tai Hook (left) and Moanahiwalani Walker (right), live from the Atherton. Photo: HPR (Leah Woolsey)

Kamakahukilani Plunkett grew up listening to Hawai'i Public Radio on early morning drives to school and later stepped behind the scenes as a production and operations intern. A graduate of Ke Kula Kaiapuni o Hau'ula, she is a musician and host of KTUH's Kipuka Leo. Kamakahukilani is committed to uplifting Hawaiian language and mele, with a focus on the leadership and legacy of Hawaiian women in music.

What were your first interactions with HPR?

Some of my earliest memories of HPR are long drives to school early in the morning with Derrick Malama on the radio. That sound of his is ingrained in me. I can still hear it. At first, as a kid, it was just something that played in the car. But as I got older, I began to understand that HPR was much more than background noise. I started to recognize its power and the way it connects people, shares stories, and inspires our community. That realization changed how I listened.

You're deeply passionate about Hawaiian language and Hawaiian music. Can you tell us more?

It's truly one of my biggest passions. I attended a Hawaiian immersion school when I was young, and that experience changed my life. I fell in love with the language, our history, and especially Hawaiian music. Mele helped me understand what it is to be Hawaiian. It helped me to understand our 'aina to connect with my community.

In learning about the power of mele, I realized how underappreciated women are in Hawaiian music – as a young girl I didn't know very much about women in mele, and as I started to learn of the impact of wāhine Hawai'i in mele, I found that it is an avenue for us to find empowerment and gain a sense of belonging within our Hawaiianess. The role that women have in mele is still not often recognized, but by being unashamed to practice mele, I hope that other women are inspired to explore mele as a way to express themselves and find belonging.

You recently interned on the production and operations team. What was that experience like?

It was an amazing and fulfilling experience. I got to see the faces behind the voices I've listened to my entire life. Being part of the production and operations side gave me a new appreciation for the care and intention behind every broadcast. Working at HPR also helped me see the gap in 'Ōlelo Hawai'i on our airwaves. The next generation of Hawaiians

are hungry for representation, and HPR has the opportunity to inspire a new generation of listeners by implementing 'Ōlelo Hawai'i. In addition to joining a long line of tradition that amplifies 'Ōlelo Hawai'i, mele and mo'olelo through KTUH's weekly radio show, Kipuka Leo, my time at HPR also helped demonstrate that there is a place and a path for younger kānaka voices in radio so we can hear our stories, our songs, and our voice on the air.

You're also a musician and recently performed in Live from the Atherton. Can you tell us about your work?

Mele Hawai'i is my kuleana – my responsibility. Upholding Hawaiian music and mele is central to how I see my role in the world. Live from the Atherton gives musicians the space to practice this responsibility. Live from the Atherton gave my band, Kilia, a serious platform to practice mele. We felt the aloha, felt supported and valued. This is something we don't often get as women in Hawaiian music, so it was wonderful to be given that platform.

Station Members

Because of you, HPR is moving forward with gratitude and confidence during this first year as a 100% community-supported organization. HPR supporters – 16,536 and counting! – are affirming their commitment to HPR and setting new milestones for community support. We mahalo the individuals, families, local businesses and foundations who are generously supporting our mission to inform with trusted news, to inspire and bring joy through music and to connect through civil discourse, events and culture and the arts.

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HPR gratefully acknowledges its Cornerstone Society supporters for their leadership and commitment to furthering the station's mission and work.

We thank these donors who have made contributions of 1,000 or more between January 1, 2025 to February 28, 2026.

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My go to station while driving. Great mix of local and national issues, music, science, arts, politics and unexpected topics. The community benefits having a resource like this in case of emergencies and for everyday entertainment and learning. Mahalo!"

-Cathleen G., Honaunau

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-Madeleine Young, Kaneohe

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Fit for Service

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RETIRED LIEUTENANT COLONEL

COMMUNITY ADVISORY BOARD MEMBER

& HPR MEMBER



Photo: John Hook

For James Faumuina, the concept of service has defined his character for as long as he can recall. Raised in a military family on O'ahu's west side, James learned early on the importance of commitment, discipline, and giving back to the community. Those values guided him through a distinguished military career and continue to shape his work today as a member of Hawai'i Public Radio's Community Advisory Board.

How did your upbringing shape your sense of service to the community?

Growing up in a military family on the west side, service and community were just part of everyday life. From an early age, I was taught that what you do should be bigger than yourself. That mindset stayed with me and ultimately led me to join the military, where I had the opportunity to serve while also pursuing higher education, eventually becoming a Lt. Colonel in the Air National Guard.

What role did HPR play during your time in the military?

HPR was a constant. Even while driving caravans – we did a lot of driving and spent plenty of time on the road, so I'd listen whenever I could. Public radio has a way of cutting through the noise, it informs without sensationalizing and helps you stay grounded. Programs like *Science Friday* became part of my routine, no matter where I was stationed. Eventually, I got

some of the other guys in my unit turned onto *Sci Fri* and other public radio staples, and they were all hooked.

Why did you decide to join HPR's Community Advisory Board?

Joining the CAB felt like a natural extension of giving back. HPR is an organization that reaches every island, and I believe it plays a critical role as a sounding board for our communities. The station helps people stay informed, connected, and engaged, and I wanted to support that mission in a more hands-on way. We're here to be more than just a sounding board, and I think the future for public radio is going to be bright.

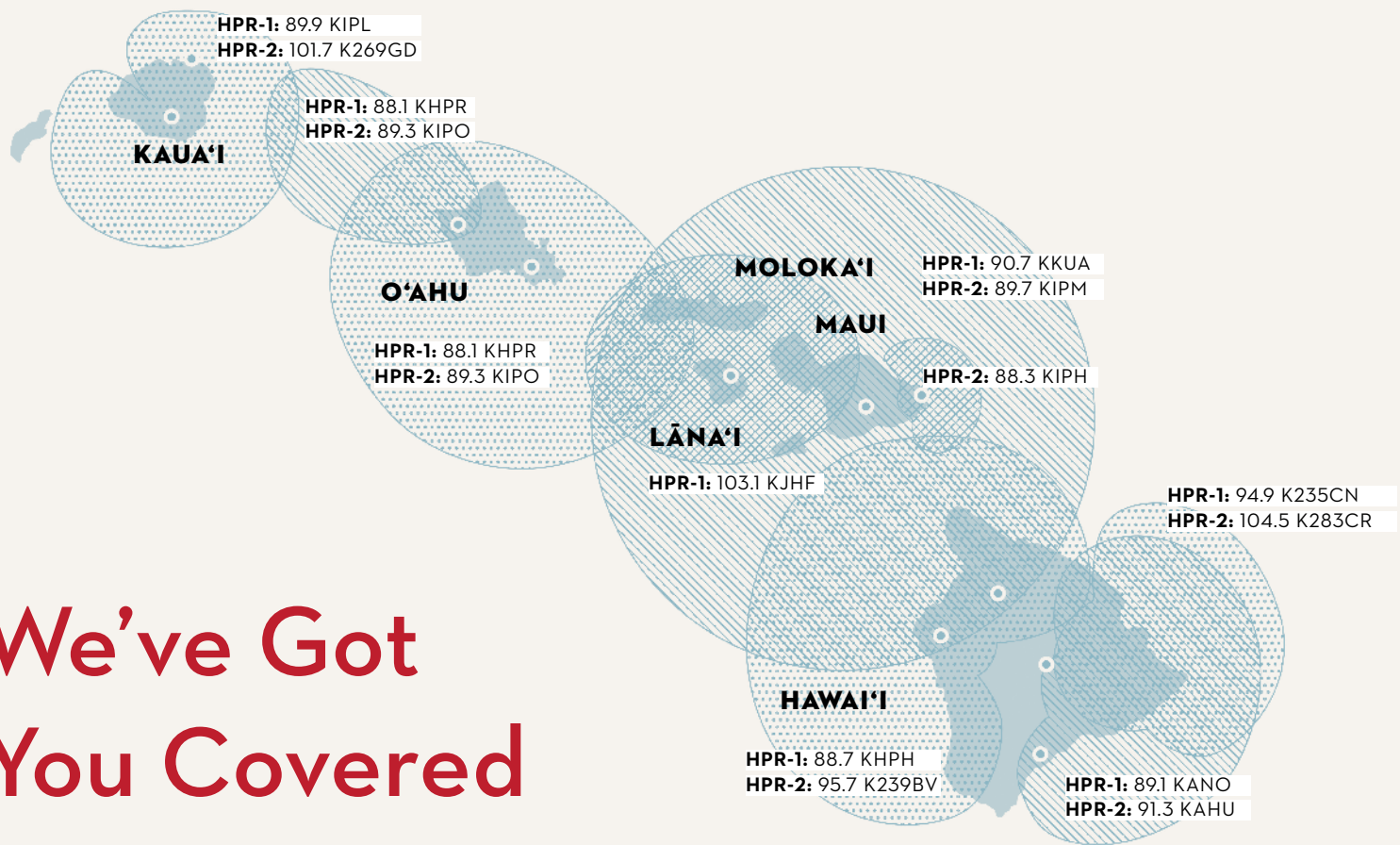
How do you see HPR supporting the Islands?

HPR helps connect people across geography and generations. It informs, it educates, and it inspires curiosity. I'm reminded of its power and importance time

and again. It's crucial to stay connected, especially in a place like Hawai'i. The station has been a huge part of my life, and I'm excited to help support its growth and outreach moving forward through the CAB. It's gonna be great.

What role do you see HPR playing in Hawai'i's future?

I hope HPR continues to inform and connect the next generation of listeners, just as it did for me. I want to see that love for radio – and for truth – continue to flourish for the people of Hawai'i. Service is important. Giving back is important and HPR helps connect us in a way that ensures we stay informed and engaged with the world around us.



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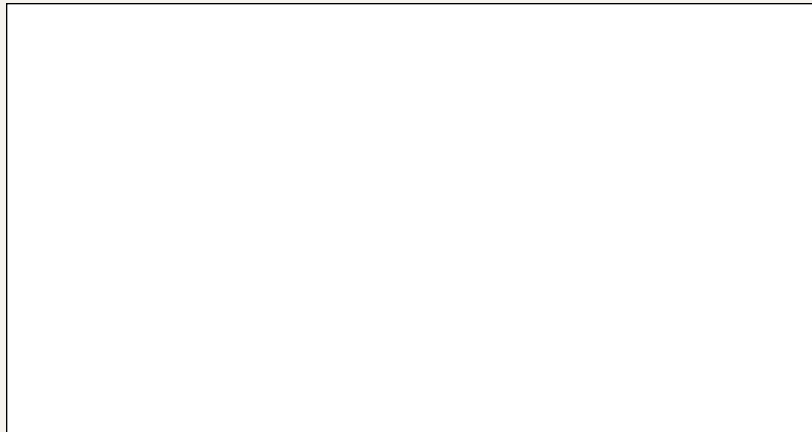
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