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**KE LA NEI KA 'OLELO HAWAII.** The Hawaiian language is alive. Following the overthrow of the Hawaiian kingdom, our mother tongue was forced underground for most of the 20th century until the widespread spiritual, political and cultural revival commonly known as the Hawaiian Renaissance began in the 1970s. But even then, younger generations weren't speaking the language. By the early 1980s, it was estimated that fewer than 50 children under age 18 spoke Hawaiian.

Fast-forward nearly three decades. The Hawaiian language is no longer a relic in our ancestral homeland. Over 2,000 students were enrolled in Hawaiian language immersion programs from preschool to high school last year, as well as many others in Hawaiian language classes and Hawaiian language degree courses in the University of Hawai'i system. Today, we see and hear our cherished 'olelo on TV, on the radio, in newspapers, magazines, official government documents, t-shirts, building names, and street signs.

Our language is an important component of Hawaiian life and culture, as it helps bond us with our Hawaiian identity and values. We share the cores of our values with cultures around the world, but ours are bound inextricably to our people by the ancestral and cultural imprints that accompany our values as they illuminate our path forward in this world.

A collective desire for our Hawaiian nation to be strong and move forward comes from the aloha that we have for our people and our land. From this desire comes the patience and willingness to listen to each other to be sure that we move forward together. Each and every one of us has a responsibility to work hard to blaze the path forward toward self-determination, with the knowledge and inspiration of the values bestowed upon us by our kīpuna lighting the way.

**E NE'EPAPA KAKOU I MUA A KŪ I KA MĀLAMĀLAMA O NĀ  
WAHĀKA KA HAWAII.**

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**Clyde W. Naimu'o**  
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**Mona Bernardino**  
*Deputy Administrator*  
 Beneficiary Advocacy & Empowerment

**Ronald Mun**  
*Deputy Administrator*  
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**ALOHA MAI KĀKOU E NĀ 'ŌIWI 'ŌLINO  
 MAI HAWAI'I A NI'HAU A PUNI KE  
 AO MĀLĀMALAMA. ALOHA E NĀ  
 KAMA'ĀINA A ME NĀ MALIHINI KEKAHI.  
 ALOHA!**

Greetings to Native Hawaiians from Hawai'i to Ni'ihau and around this brilliant world. Greetings to longtime residents of Hawai'i and newcomers alike. Greetings!

The Office of Hawaiian Affairs is proud to present the Fiscal Year 2008 Annual Report, which summarizes OHA programs, activities and financial statements for the period of July 1, 2007, to June 30, 2008, in meeting our legal mandate and urgent objectives for the future well-being of Hawaiians and Hawai'i.

**“OHA’s mission to improve conditions for Native Hawaiians, in these trying times, demands concerted efforts to empower and prepare our beneficiaries for an enlightened, focused, unified, creative, productive and dedicated leadership and participation, guided by Hawaiian values, spirituality and lokahi, in building a stronger and better Hawai’i for all of its people.”**

The theme of this year’s annual report celebrates the flourishing revival of our mother tongue, ka ʻōlelo Hawaiʻi, and the inner strength sustained by Hawaiian values and tradition. In celebrating the wisdom, knowledge and use of our Hawaiian language – the essential bridge to our culture and history – we also nurture facility in the real and symbolic languages of the world in which we all must survive and thrive.

The year 2008 was a challenging one for OHA and this annual report provides you a concentrated view of accomplishments and triumphs over adversity through the commitment and strength of OHA Trustees, administration, staff, volunteers and community partners.

We look toward 2009 with great optimism. We see the promise of Native Hawaiian initiatives such as the Native Hawaiian Government Reorganization Act, also known as the Akaka Bill, moving forward, bringing Native Hawaiians closer to the goal of self-determination in a unified effort. Throughout this coming year stay informed about OHA’s progress by visiting our website at [www.oha.org](http://www.oha.org).

OHA’s mission to improve conditions for Native Hawaiians, in these trying times, demands concerted efforts to empower and prepare our beneficiaries for an enlightened, focused, unified, creative, productive and dedicated leadership and participation, guided by Hawaiian values, spirituality and lokahi, in building a stronger and better Hawai’i for all of its people.

*Together, we will continue to move forward.  
 Pipākaiki i hāloania!*

No nā 'ōiwi 'ōlino,

*S. Hauani Apoliona*

Trustee S. Hauani Apoliona, MSW  
 Chairperson, Board of Trustees



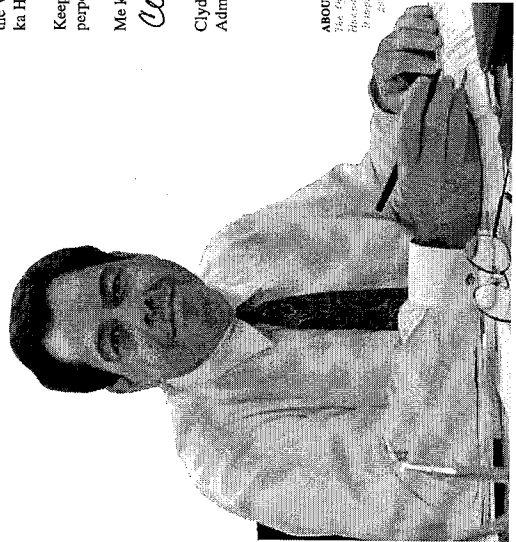
**'ŌLELO A KA LUNA HO'ŌKELE**  
Message from the Administrator

ALOHA KĀKŌU.

With great pride, I present the Office of Hawaiian Affairs fiscal year 2008 Annual Report which highlights the agency's programs, activities, leadership and financial summary for the period covering July 1, 2007, to June 30, 2008.

The Office of Hawaiian Affairs is led by the nine-member Board of Trustees, which sets policy for the agency's administration. OHA's 157 employees staff the agency's administrative office in Honolulu, community offices in Kona, Hilo, Kahului, Kaunakakai, Lāna'i City and Līhu'e and a bureau in Washington, D.C.

*"the language has become a part  
of our everyday lives in carrying  
forward the values of our brilliant  
Hawaiian people – nā waiwai a ka  
Hawai'i."*



In fiscal year 2008, the Office of Hawaiian Affairs made great strides in meeting its mission of bettering the conditions of Native Hawaiians. OHA pledged \$3 million per year for 30 years to assist the State Department of Hawaiian Home Lands with financing for housing infrastructure statewide, awarded more than \$18 million in grants, successfully launched the OHA Mālama Loan program that has approved \$10 million in loans, celebrated our land acquisitions at Wao Kele O Puna and Waimea Valley, supported public charter schools that implement Hawaiian models of education, provided greater outreach to the Native Hawaiian community and the public at-large through the expansion of OHA's radio show, Nā 'Ōiwi 'Ōiino, through a network of AM and FM radio stations, and vigorously fought to protect twi kūpana and burial sites at more than 20 locations across Hawai'i and the Continental U.S.

OHA has also strived for greater transparency and openness this past year through making available as much information as possible on what we do. For more information on the Office of Hawaiian Affairs and its programs, visit us online at [www.OHA.org](http://www.OHA.org).

This year's artistic theme showcases the renaissance of the Hawaiian culture through the rejuvenation of ka 'ōlelo Hawai'i, the language of our Hawaiian people. We use the photography of Arna Johnson to illustrate how the language has become a part of our everyday lives in carrying forward the values of our brilliant Hawaiian people – nā waiwai a ka Hawai'i.

Keeping the language strong and alive goes far in perpetuating who we are as a people.

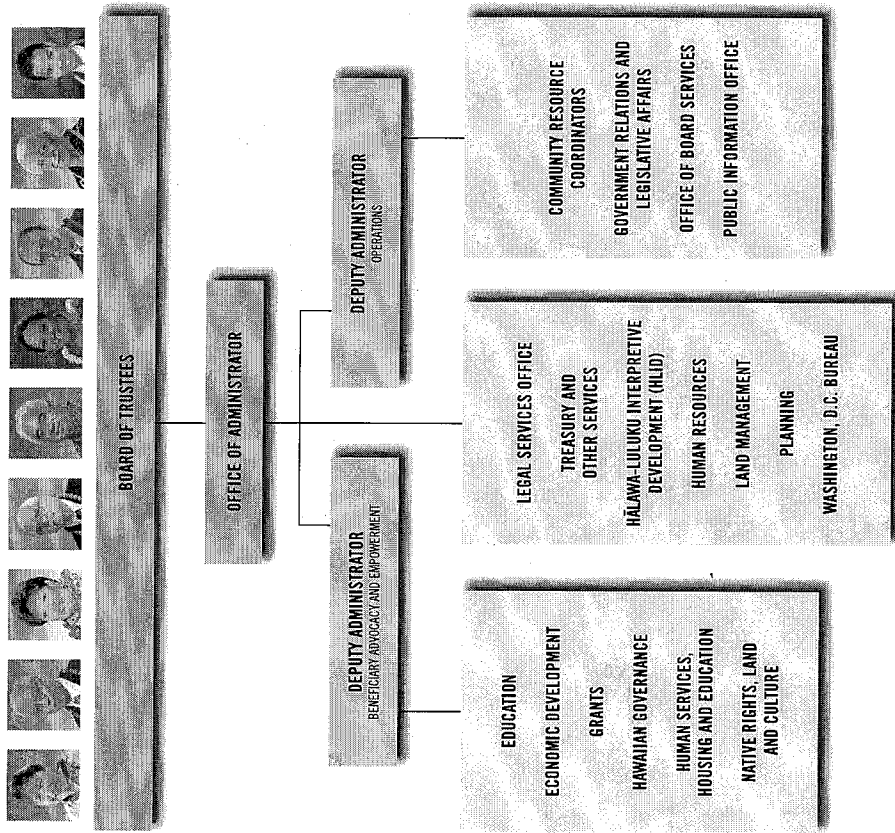
Me ka 'ōia'i'o.

*Clyde W. Nāmu'o*

Clyde Nāmu'o  
Administrator

**ABOUT THE OFFICE OF THE ADMINISTRATOR AS OF JUNE 30, 2008**  
The Office of the Administrator is responsible for the overall management of the Office of Hawaiian Affairs. The Administrator is responsible for the overall management of the Office of Hawaiian Affairs, including the development and implementation of the agency's policies, programs, and activities. The Administrator is also responsible for the overall management of the Office of Hawaiian Affairs, including the development and implementation of the agency's policies, programs, and activities.

**OFFICE OF HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS ORGANIZATIONAL CHART**  
2008



Note: The chart above depicts the structure of the organization as of June 30, 2008. To view a current organizational chart visit [oha.org](http://oha.org).

OHA STRATEGIC PLAN 2006-2011  
Draft, prepared for the OHA Board of Trustees, Aug. 4, 2006

**LAND**

Through the exercise of prudent investment and other strategies, develop organizational infrastructure to acquire land for preservation, investment or programmatic needs detailed in a comprehensive land policy.

**CULTURE**

OHA shall have drafted and implemented a plan that identifies and provides solutions to safeguard endangered traditions, practices and rights, and subsequently put into practice steps that will protect, re-establish and enhance Hawaiian cultural assets.

**ADVOCACY/NATIVE RIGHTS**

OHA shall have protected natural and cultural resources through the adoption of administrative, legislative and legal actions.

**ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

OHA's investment in the creation, retention and expansion of Native Hawaiian wealth shall have: 1) improved economic self-sufficiency for Native Hawaiians by facilitating and supporting programs and policies that create jobs, increase income, improve economic literacy and create sustainable businesses; and 2) created an economic development environment that routinely leverages existing resources into strategic partnerships and entrepreneurial opportunities for Native Hawaiians in local, national, and global markets.

**EDUCATION**

OHA shall have developed and implemented a plan to ensure Native Hawaiian access to all education opportunities.

**HUMAN SERVICES**

OHA shall assist Native Hawaiian families in improving their quality of life in the areas of food, shelter and safety.

**HOUSING**

OHA shall assist Native Hawaiian families in achieving housing goals.

**HAWAIIAN GOVERNANCE**

OHA shall have assisted, coordinated and enabled the creation of a unified Hawaiian Nation.

**HEALTH**

OHA shall have collaborated with other Native Hawaiian health care providers to increase the acquisition of resources from federal, state, counties and others, to address the health care needs of Native Hawaiians with particular focus on the needs of the aged and elderly, including but not limited to prevention, treatment, education and other needs.

**POLICY**

OHA shall establish and support policies that meet constitutional and statutory mandates, while furthering its mission.

# Mission statement

To mālama Hawai'i's people and environmental resources, and OHA's assets, toward ensuring the perpetuation of the culture, the enhancement of lifestyle and the protection of entitlements of Native Hawaiians, while enabling the building of a strong and healthy Hawaiian people and nation, recognized nationally and internationally.