



HAWAI'I BOOK PUBLISHERS ASSOCIATION

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For Immediate Release

2019 KA PALAPALA PO'OKELA AWARD HONOREES ANNOUNCED

Hawai'i's Publishing Community Celebrates the Best Books of 2017–2018

HONOLULU — Last Friday evening, December 13, the Hawai'i Book Publishers Association (HBPA) revealed the winners of the 2019 Ka Palapala Po'okela book awards at a festive gathering at Hawai'i State Library (HSL) in downtown Honolulu. The awards are presented by HBPA to honor the finest books published in Hawai'i and give recognition to the individuals and companies involved in their creation. The celebration marked the 24th year of these awards, which are now given biennially; this year's eligible titles were those with 2017 and 2018 copyright dates. A total of 71 entries from 54 separate book projects from a spectrum of publishers were nominated in eleven categories.

The most prestigious prize, the Samuel M. Kamakau Award for Hawai'i Book of the Year, was conferred on Honolulu Museum of Art for its lavish publication, *Ho'oulu Hawai'i: The King Kalākaua Era*, created to accompany the HoMA exhibition that ran from September 2018 through January 2019. With text by museum curator Healoha Johnston and seven contributors, along with photographs and visual documentation of the material culture showcased in the exhibition, the book tied for top honors in the Excellence in Hawaiian Language, Culture and History category. The judging panel acclaimed it for offering readers “a deep look into the aesthetics and politics of Kalākaua's reign” and being “not only a feast for the eyes, and a substantial contribution to nineteenth-century history of Hawai'i, but also a delightfully good read.” Barbara Pope Book Design was also recognized with an honorable mention in the Design category for its meticulous work on the book.

The other winning title in the Hawaiian Language, Culture and History category is *Nā Wāhine Koa: Hawaiian Women for Sovereignty and Demilitarization*, with personal essays by longtime activists Moanike'ala Akaka, Maxine Kahalelio, Terrilee Keko'olani-Raymond, and Loretta Ritte; edited by Noelani Ka'ōpua-Goodyear. The volume is published by University of Hawai'i Press in association with Hawai'i-nuiākea School of Hawaiian Knowledge at UH Mānoa. The judges recognized the book's "text and visual components are skillfully crafted and edited, allowing readers to deeply connect with the personal narratives, photographs, news articles and other primary sources shared by the co-authors." The panel also noted the book "provides an important contribution to scholarship about the Hawaiian Renaissance and the leadership of Hawaiian women in exercising aloha 'āina."

Out of eleven nominees in the Nonfiction category, the judging panel selected *Light in the Queen's Garden: Ida May Pope, Pioneer for Hawai'i's Daughters, 1862–1914*, by San Diego educator Sandra Bonura (UH Press). The "absorbing, well-written" work was lauded for the author's substantial use of valuable primary resources that "runs seamlessly into her intimate narrative of Pope's life, creating a vivid picture of Hawai'i at the end of the 19th century." There was a tie for honorable mention, which was awarded to *In Haste with Aloha: Letters and Diaries of Queen Emma, 1881–1885*, edited by David W. Forbes (UH Press) and *Remember Pearl Harbor*, by the Honolulu Star-Advertiser (Mutual Publishing). The former was praised for its extensive notes, impressive design, and thorough research; and the latter for "its outstanding use of choice photos and graphics to clearly illustrate the circumstances and dramatic events that frame that tragic day."

In the Literature category, Lillian Howan's *The Charm Buyers* (UH Press) was selected as the best in the field of fiction writing. The "lush yet elegant novel" set in Tahiti stood out due to Howan's writing that "is sharp and evocative, the dialogue brisk and true, cutting through an atmosphere and plot musky with sex, pearls and pythons, superstition and capitalism, family betrayal and aristo decadence." The honorable mention went Bamboo Ridge Press for its "documentary renshi" poetry on the 1930s Massie case, *What We Must Remember*, by poets Christy Passion, Ann Inoshita, Juliet S. Kono, and Jean Yamasaki Toyama.

Pathway of the Birds: The Voyaging Achievements of Māori and Their Polynesian Ancestors, by New Zealand author Andrew Crowe (UH Press), won the Award of Excellence in two categories: Illustrative or Photographic Books and Text or Reference Books. The judging panels (different for each category) were impressed by “the seamless interpretation and integration of a vast amount of information by the designer into a dense, but clear design rhythm that’s consistent throughout” and that it “very well may be the best example of merging hard science and clear narrative.” The honorable mention for Illustrative/Photographic Books was given to ***Kona and His Hard Shell***, a beautifully illustrated children’s book by Chrissy Miyake and illustrator Anneth Lagamo (Island Heritage Publishing). For Text/Reference Books, the honorable mention went to John R. K. Clark’s ***Kalaupapa Place Names: Waikolu to Nihoa*** (UH Press) for making available archival accounts drawn from Hawaiian-language newspapers.

From a large field of twelve nominees in the Children’s Literature category, ***Kolea and the Chief’s Cloak***, written by Alice Guild and illustrated by Georg [sic] James and John Dinsmore (On the Wing Publishing), rose to the top. The judges called it “part history, part ornithology, part moral fable” that is “meticulously and thoughtfully designed” with an extraordinary color palette. The honorable mention was presented to ***Have You Seen Claudia?***, a picture book “perfect [for] reading with a little one,” by Vince Daubenspeck and illustrated by award-winning artist Don Robinson (Island Heritage).

In the Children’s Hawaiian Culture category, Kamehameha Publishing held the top spots with its titles for keiki. The winning title, ***Ke Ki’owai ‘o Honokawailani: A Bilingual Tale of ‘Ewa, O‘ahu***, written and illustrated by the haumāna of Ke Kula Kaiapuni ‘o Waiau, was described as “beautifully written, beautifully illustrated” and “sets a standard of excellence in book production, a collaborative process, careful attention to Hawaiian language and traditional storytelling.” The honorable mention went to ***Pāhana ‘Āina Lupalupa, Set 1***, which contains twenty science-focused books by Kamehameha Schools and Hale Kuamo‘o Hawaiian Language Center at University of Hawai‘i at Hilo.

Mutual Publishing garnered both awards in the Cookbook category and also top honors for Special-Interest Books. ***Lynette Lo Tom’s Back in the Day: Enjoy Hawai‘i’s Comfort Foods from Family and Friends*** by Lynette Lo Tom was appreciated for her “clear instructions for

easy preparation even a novice cook can follow.” The honorable mention, *Hawai‘i’s Rice Cooker Cookbook*, by Malie and Jade Ogoshi shares “innovative recipes about the well-loved and underappreciated rice cooker.” The judges described the winner in the Special-Interest category, *Ka Baibala Hemolele: The Holy Bible*, from the Partners in Development Foundation and edited by Helen Kaowili, “a modernized Hawaiian bible with updated diacritical marks and contemporary orthography that is a joy to read and easy to navigate.” The honorable mention in the category went to “vibrant and fun” *The Musubi Book* by Manabu Asaoka and illustrated by Maria Asaoka, published by Legacy Isle Publishing.

The awards for the Design category are bestowed on the designer or design company for their work. The award of excellence went to **Inhouse Design** of New Zealand for *Tatau: A History of Sāmoan Tattooing*, by Sean Mallon and Sébastien Galliot (UH Press). Among other details, the judges liked how the book “integrate[d] an extensive amount of micro and macro body copy with studio photography, lifestyle and candid images.” As noted above, **Barbara Pope Book Design** received the honorable mention for *Ho‘oulu Hawai‘i: The King Kalākaua Era* (Honolulu Museum of Art), which was appreciated for making “absorbing history a pleasure.”

In the “Aloha from Across the Sea” category, which includes books published outside the state of Hawai‘i, the award of excellence was bestowed on *The Power of the Steel-tipped Pen: Reconstructing Native Hawaiian Intellectual History*, by Noenoe K. Silva (Duke University Press), which spotlights the writings of Joseph Ho‘ona‘auao Kānepu‘u and Joseph Moku‘ōhai Poepoe. The panel recognized the book as “a crucial step in any journey that aims to understand the breadth and depth of Kanaka ‘Ōiwi thought.” The honorable mention was given to poet Eric Paul Shaffer’s *Even Further West*, published by Unsolicited Press.

The judging process relied on panels of three adjudicators from Hawai‘i’s book community to evaluate titles within their assigned categories. More information about the awards can be found on the HBPA website: www.hawaiipublishers.org/.

See the full list of nominees and winners at: <http://hawaiipublishers.org/awards.html>

Photos of the awards event can be viewed and saved at:

<https://www.flickr.com/photos/186001140@N03/with/49216858561/>

Additional book cover images are available upon request.

The complete list of award recipients follows below:

The Samuel M. Kamakau Award

Ho'oulu Hawai'i: The King Kalākaua Era
By Healoha Johnston
Published by the Honolulu Museum of Art

Excellence in Children's Literature

Award of Excellence

Kolea and the Chief's Cloak
By Alice Guild; illustrated by Georg James and John Dinsmore
Published by On the Wing Publishing

Honorable Mention

Have You Seen Claudia?
By Vince Daubenspeck; illustrated by Don Robinson
Published by Island Heritage Publishing

Excellence in Children's Hawaiian Culture

Award of Excellence

Ke Ki'owai 'o Honokawailani: A Bilingual Tale of 'Ewa, O'ahu
Written and illustrated by the haumāna of Ke Kula Kaiapuni 'o Waiau
Published by Kamehameha Publishing

Honorable Mention

Pāhana 'Āina Lupalupa, Set 1
By Kamehameha Schools and Hale Kuamo' o Hawaiian Language Center at the University of Hawai'i – Hilo
Published by Kamehameha Publishing

Excellence in Cookbooks

Award of Excellence

Lynette Lo Tom's Back in the Day: Enjoy Hawai'i's Comfort Foods from Family and Friends
By Lynette Lo Tom
Published by Mutual Publishing

Honorable Mention

Hawai'i's Rice Cooker Cookbook
By Malie and Jade Ogoshi
Published by Mutual Publishing

Excellence in Hawaiian Language, Culture & History

Award of Excellence (TIE)

Ho'oulu Hawai'i: The King Kalākaua Era

By Healoha Johnston

Published by the Honolulu Museum of Art

Award of Excellence (TIE)

Nā Wāhine Koa: Hawaiian Women for Sovereignty and Demilitarization

By Moanike'ala Akaka, Maxine Kahalelio, Terrilee Keko'olani-Raymond, and Loretta Ritte;
edited by Noelani Ka'ōpua-Goodyear

Published by University of Hawai'i Press in association with Hawai'nuiākea School of Hawaiian Knowledge, University of Hawai'i at Mānoa

Excellence in Illustrative or Photographic Books

Award of Excellence

Pathway of the Birds: The Voyaging Achievements of Māori and Their Polynesian Ancestors

By Andrew Crowe

Published by University of Hawai'i Press

Honorable Mention

Kona and His Hard Shell

By Chrissy Miyake; illustrated by Anneth Lagamo

Published by Island Heritage Publishing

Excellence in Literature

Award of Excellence

The Charm Buyers

By Lillian Howan

Published by University of Hawai'i Press

Honorable Mention

What We Must Remember

By Christy Passion, Ann Inoshita, Juliet S. Kono and Jean Yamasaki Toyama

Published by Bamboo Ridge Press

Excellence in Nonfiction

Award of Excellence

Light in the Queen's Garden: Ida May Pope, Pioneer for Hawai'i's Daughters, 1862 – 1914

By Sandra Bonura

Published by University of Hawai'i Press

Honorable Mention (TIE)

In Haste with Aloha: Letters and Diaries of Queen Emma, 1881 – 1885

Edited by David W. Forbes

Published by University of Hawai'i Press

Honorable Mention (TIE)

Remember Pearl Harbor

By the Honolulu Star-Advertiser

Published by Mutual Publishing

Excellence in Text or Reference Books

Award of Excellence

Pathway of the Birds: The Voyaging Achievements of Māori and Their Polynesian Ancestors

By Andrew Crowe

Published by University of Hawai'i Press

Honorable Mention

Kalaupapa Place Names: Waikolu to Nihoa

By John R. K. Clark

Published by University of Hawai'i Press

Excellence in Special-Interest Books

Award of Excellence

Ka Baibala Hemolele: The Holy Bible

Partners in Development Foundation; edited by Helen Kaowili

Published by Mutual Publishing

Honorable Mention

The Musubi Book

By Manabu Asaoka; illustrated by Maria Asaoka

Published by Legacy Isle Publishing

Excellence in Design

Award of Excellence

Tatau: A History of Sāmoan Tattooing

By Sean Mallon and Sébastien Galliot

Designed by Inhouse Design

Published by University of Hawai'i Press

Honorable Mention

Ho'oulu Hawai'i: The King Kalākaua Era

By Healoha Johnston

Designed by Barbara Pope Book Design
Published by the Honolulu Museum of Art

Excellence in “Aloha from Across the Sea”

Award of Excellence

The Power of the Steel-tipped Pen: Reconstructing Native Hawaiian Intellectual History

By Noenoe K. Silva

Published by Duke University Press

Honorable Mention

Even Further West

By Eric Paul Shaffer

Published by Unsolicited Press

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