

A Special Message from Governor Neil Abercrombie and Lieutenant Governor Shan S. Tsutsui

In Recognition of the 24th Annual Ka Leo O Nā Hula A.C. Festival and Seminar

October 16-19, 2014

Aloha mai kākou (greetings to everyone) attending the 24th Annual Ka Leo O Nā Hula Festival and Seminar being held in Mexico City, Mexico. On behalf of the people of Hawai'i, we extend a heartfelt *aloha* to all the *kumu hula, hula halau*, and musicians participating in this three-day event.

The festival and seminar will provide attendees a deeper understanding and appreciation for the Hawaiian culture, including the history, values and principles handed down from generation to generation. This event will also encourage people of Hawaiian ancestry and other backgrounds to support the perpetuation of the Hawaiian culture through the language, chants, choreography, and sharing of the Spirit of Aloha among participants and attendees. We commend the theme of "Becoming whole by knowing thyself through *hula*" for embracing *hula* as a means of promoting well-being and empowering those who practice it to bring their peace and goodwill to others.

Mahalo nui loa (thank you very much) to Ana Marie Lopez Serrano, President of Ka Leo O Nā Hula A.C., which was established in 1990 as a hula teachers association in Mexico. Your dedication, and that of your sponsors and volunteers, will encourage *hula halau* throughout Mexico and the United States to come together to share their love for *hula* in a non-competitive gathering.

We conclude our message with an '*Ōlelo No'eau* or Hawaiian proverb by the great Hawaiian scholar, Mary Kawena Pukui:

"Aʻohe pau ka ʻike i ka halau hoʻokahi"

"All knowledge is not taught in the same school." Explanation: One can learn from many sources.

With warm regards,



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NEIL ABERCROMBIE Governor



SHAN S. TSUTSUI Lt. Governor