

# MANA MAOLI

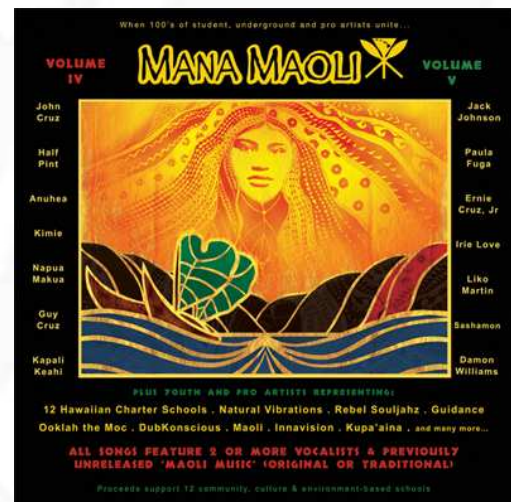
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

December 19, 2011

## MANA MAOLI PRESENTS: "THIS IS MAOLI MUSIC" (8 TRACK SAMPLER) CD

"This is Maoli Music" - an inspiring collaboration between over a hundred artists representing the Mana Maoli Collective, and over a hundred youth representing 12 Hawaiian charter schools from across the islands. This innovative fundraising campaign aims to increase awareness about the phenomenal successes of the Hawaiian charter school movement, despite severe financial struggles.

"This is Maoli Music" - Mana Maoli Volumes IV and V - is a massive, unforgettable double CD compilation containing over 2 hours of previously unreleased original or traditional music, along with a music video of a new John Cruz - Jack Johnson song. Every song in the compilation is a collaboration of two or more vocalists, where professional artists team up with students or each other. **Mana Maoli has just released a bundle of eight 'sneak preview' tracks on iTunes and CD Baby, as a highly enjoyable and affordable holiday gift option in support of community-based education (\$5, see links below).**



Founded in 1999, Mana Maoli is a nonprofit that supports charter schools through its sailing canoe and 'Maoli Music' programs, and related social entrepreneurship initiatives. The Mana Maoli Collective refers to hundreds of artists who donate their time and talent to Mana Maoli CD's, concerts, school visits, and music mentorships. Representing the Mana Maoli Collective in this project are many youth and underground prodigies, alongside John Cruz, Jack Johnson, international reggae artist Half Pint, Anuhea, Paula Fuga, Napua Makua, Ernie Cruz, Jr, Liko Martin, Rebel Souljahz, Natural Vibrations, Kimie, Guy Cruz, Damon Williams, Maoli, Ooklah the Moc, and many more.

Supporters will find on this compilation many styles, and fusions of styles - traditional and contemporary Hawaiian, island and roots reggae, hip-hop and dancehall, acoustic and electro, RnB and soul. Regardless of your musical taste, you will surely find music on this album that moves you.

"This is Maoli Music" is set for full release in early February, with a massive release concert set for **February 18<sup>th</sup> at Kaka'ako Park**. Mana Maoli has also just recently put out "Mana Maoli Select - Volume 1" on iTunes, a collection of favorite tracks across Volumes I, II and III, spanning 10 years of 'Maoli Music' released online for the first time.

***Why are so many artists donating their time and positive original music to this project?*** These public charter schools – grounded in Hawaiian values, culture, and language – have demonstrated amazing success with their students, despite the severe funding and facilities inequity they face. Despite these challenges, students at these small schools are responsive to culture, community and environment-based curriculum, that is often much more ‘hands-on’ and ‘real world’ relevant than mainstream education. Students show substantial improvements in attendance, academics, behavior, leadership, cultural grounding, and self-esteem. These artists, upon visiting the schools or speaking with parents, staff and students, see the existing success of these schools, and their unbelievable potential moving forward, if they are granted facilities and financial equity, after over a decade of serving Hawaii’s youth.

A special mahalo to the Office of Hawaiian Affairs for making this project possible. The majority of funds supporting this project is through OHA’s CBED (Community-Based Economic Development) grant.

For more information, promotional requests or to set up an interview, please contact Keola Nakanishi at (808) 295-6262 or by email at [keolanakanishi@yahoo.com](mailto:keolanakanishi@yahoo.com).

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**Please also check out the following links:**

<http://manamaoli.org/>

<http://www.facebook.com/ManaMaoliCollective>

<http://www.cdbaby.com/>