



Keeping It Green

Fall 2017, Vol. 8, No. 3

MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Don't miss **UpCycle.17** on display through **November 24** in Hilo at the **East Hawai'i Cultural Center/Museum of Contemporary Art**. This annual exhibition, formerly known as the Hawai'i Island Artists Trash Show, has been running for nearly 30 years. Recycle Hawai'i (RH) has been a regular Patron of this event with \$100 donated for the special RH designated award and listing on the "Tutu Hana Hou Award" plaque, in remembrance of the late Joann Diotalevi, former North Hawai'i Community Educator for Recycle Hawai'i.



Artist Michael Olson (*left*) received the 2017 Tutu Hana Hou Award for his entry entitled "Mono" from Paul Buklarewicz. *Photo by Andrzej Kramarz*

Grant Funding

CAPture Bottle Cap Reclamation Project, funded by a grant from The Atherton Family Foundation, is wrapping up this year thanks to Education Director, Marsha Hee. Dr. Neil Scott of The Makery, on the corner of Keawe and Kalakaua Streets in Hilo, serves as technical/engineering partner working with secondary level students and teachers at Connections Public Charter School to manufacture a student designed mold for producing a 3D object made from ground up plastic bottle caps. Project participants are preparing for their culminating display and demonstration at **The Makery on First Friday, Dec. 1 at 3:00-5:00 pm**. Save the date and join us for this family community event to learn more about this student initiated project to reuse and upcycle resources.

Mahalo to the Swain Barber Foundation based in Los Angeles, California for awarding a \$20,000 gift coming in January 2018 to continue our recycling and sustainability efforts for the current fiscal year. RH is awaiting word regarding our application to the Hawai'i Community Foundation FLEX grant program to be announced sometime in November 2017.

Reuse Centers (RC)

In addition to continuing break-ins and theft since opening in June, the Hilo store experienced serious flooding from storm of 10/23-24 – significant damage to donations. Kona and Keauhou sites were also unable to remain open due to flooding on 10/24. We will have to install additional 20'x40' tent/tarps to keep donations dry at the Hilo site. Due to previous sun and windstorm damage, we need to replace the 20'X30' tarp and poles at the Waimea site at a cost of approximately \$1,200 - \$1,500.

RH has been partnering with Honolulu-based contractors such as Nan, Inc., and Reuse Hawai'i in salvaging lumber, fixtures and other materials for resale at our Reuse Centers. Usable C&D materials reclaimed from construction sites are tracked by weight. We have a tare weight of our truck and trailer (empty) and when fully loaded the truck and/or trailer is taken to a certified weigh station and issued a weight ticket. This documentation is particularly useful for construction projects that are attempting to obtain LEED (Leadership in Engineering and Environmental Design) certifications in establishing proof of recycling and reuse pursuant to the qualifications for various levels of LEED certifications. Nan, Inc. has agreed to reimburse RH for weighing costs and fuel. The materials that are sold are also recorded by weight and made a part of the monthly diversion reports to COH-DEM (County of Hawai'i – Department of Environmental Management).

Latex Paint Diversion: Adjunct to COH-DEM Hilo/Kona/Waimea HHW, the next latex paint collection will be at **Hilo transfer station's Reuse Center on Sat. Dec. 2, and Sat. Dec. 9 at the Kealakehe transfer station in Kailua-Kona, both events held from 7:30 a.m. – 2:30 p.m.** Usable latex paint will be made available at the low price of \$5/gallon at the Kea'au Reuse/Recycling Center.

Puna Kamali'i Flowers (PKF), our subcontractor and partner for the past 14 years in successful diversion efforts at the Kea'au and Pāhoa Reuse Centers, will soon be installing a collection bin for clean newspaper to be shredded at the Hilo Reuse Center for reusing as packaging materials for their floral agricultural products.

Other Notes

Vicki Haili, RH Admin. Assistant, attended the annual Keep the Hawaiian Islands Beautiful (KHIB) Lualima Leadership Conference in Honolulu on October 13, 2017 representing RH and Keep Hawai'i Beautiful, the local affiliate of Keep America Beautiful. RH continues its collaborative efforts with these local and statewide organizations.

Mahalo to Vicki Haili, Marsha Hee and our Board of Directors for initiating the newly designed RH website platform, which is still undergoing updates and revisions. Visit us at www.recyclehawaii.org.

Plans to review and update the 2009 COH "Integrated Resources/Solid Waste Management Plan" (IR/SWMP) via a committee of various stakeholders. Residents and businesses having an interest in serving on this committee can apply via the hawaiicounty.gov/ website. Look for Board & Commissions application on the Mayor's page of the County website to apply. Board Director Georjean Adams and Executive Director Buklarewicz have submitted applications.

Going forward our Board of Directors will be meeting in January for strategic planning to review our outreach educational programming and Reuse Centers at County transfer stations. We welcome our membership to become more active and involved in these efforts, and look forward to your input and advice on where and how you want to see our efforts go island-wide in 2018 and beyond.

Paul J. Buklarewicz , Executive Director

EDUCATION & COMMUNITY OUTREACH

● **2017 Recycle-Bowl (RB) School Competition on Oct 16-Nov 15, 2017** is an annual collaborative effort in partnership with Keep the Hawaiian Islands Beautiful, the statewide affiliate of Keep America Beautiful. This year's participating schools are:

- Chiefess Kamakahelei Middle School (Kaua'i)
- Christian Liberty Academy (Hawai'i)
- Konawaena High (Hawai'i)
- Pahoa High-Inter (Hawai'i)
- Volcano School of Arts & Sciences (Hawai'i)
- Wilcox Elementary (Kaua'i)

RB results will be announced in Spring 2018. Top schools receive prizes donated by local businesses, sponsored last year by: Goodfellow Bros., Inc., Island Naturals Market & Deli, Lex Brodie's Tires and Sustainable Island Products.

● Celebrate **Hawai'i/America Recycles Day on November 15** by taking the #BeRecycled Pledge online:

<https://americarecyclesday.org/> or in person at RH Outreach tabling events:

Sun. Nov. 12: 3rd Annual Going Nuts for the Holidays! 10 am - 5 pm at Hale Halawai in downtown Kona, a free family community "Zero Waste" event organized by RH Board Director, Randy Rugar.

Tues. Nov. 14: 9:30 – 10:30 am at Pāhoa Reuse Center; 11 am – 12 pm at Kea'au Reuse Center

Wed. Nov. 15: 8:30 – 9:30 am at Keauhou Reuse Center; 11:30 am-12:30 pm at Kealakehe Reuse Center
2:30-3:30 pm at Waimea Reuse Center

● **Keeping it Green Hawai'i (KIGH) Award** program will continue to accept nominations for qualifying organizations until **November 14, 2017**. Nomination application forms are available at our website under 'About/Our Programs/KIGH' or upon request from educationdirector@recyclehawaii.org.

● Backyard Composting Workshops, limited to available funding, will be announced for Spring/Summer 2018 at island-wide locations.

RH Website

Our latest Recycling Guides are now maintained on our website. For a comprehensive guide go to 'Where to Recycle' section. For a basic "My Zero Waste Checklist & Tips" go to 'Resources/At Home-Step 1' for a downloadable copy.

2017 Art & Craft of UPCycling Project (ACUP) entries will be featured in the 'Gallery' section. Check out what students and adults have upcycled from cardboard, rags, aluminum pop tabs, plastic bags, rubber tubes and more! Get inspired and create your own ideas for next year's ACUP!

1st Quarter Completed Events

The 24th Annual Kokua i Na Kula (Help the Schools) program promoted by KTA Super Stores and other corporate sponsors ran from August 9 through September 19, 2017. This was our fourth year to partner with KTA Super Stores and Becker Communications to provide a resource awareness community service option where schools earn bonus points towards their share of \$100,000 for school improvements and learning materials. This year's results were the best yet. Students and teachers from eight schools turned in over 13,400 pieces of mylar snack bags, granola bar wrappers and aluminum juice pouches. These materials, which are not acceptable for recycling on-island, were diverted from the landfill by being shipped in (10) large boxes to TerraCycle, Inc. in New Jersey for upcycling and recycling. The shipping expense was reimbursed by Becker Communications.

School Wrapper Counts: (one point per wrapper is reported to KTA)

Kealakehe Intermediate	- 376
Konawaena Middle	- 225
Laupāhoehoe Community PCS	- 75
Holualoa Elementary	- 2,429
Kea'au Middle	- 7,646
Volcano School of Arts & Sciences	- 815
Chiefess Kap'iolani Elementary	- 161
Ka 'Umeke Kā'eo PCS	- 1,738
TOTAL	13,465

Presentations and Zero Waste Events:

08/15/17 – Pahoa Elementary Grade 3 classroom presentations (by Marsha H.)

08/24/17 – HICC Business After Hours with Sustainable Island Products/Hilo RC
(by Paul B., Vicki H., & Hilo RC staff Kage Kalamakia, Kaycee Buchanan)

08/25/17 – Four Seasons Health & Wellness Fair info. table (by Marsha H.)

08/27/17 – Ohi`a Love Fest at 'Imiloa Astronomy Education Center info. table (by Marsha H.)

09/05/17 – Testimony in Support of Amended Bill 13 on EPS Foam reduction (by Paul B.)

09/06/17 - Connections PCS Middle & High classroom presentation (by Marsha H.)

09/07/17 – UHH – SOS (Students of Sustainability) on Get the Drift & Bag It! (by Vicki H.)

09/22/17 – Hilo Kiwanis Club presentation on general recycling and sustainability (by Paul B.)

10/17/17 – Waiakea High Key Club on Get the Drift & Bag It! (by Vicki H.)

Recycle Hawai'i is a 501(c)3 non-profit educational membership organization based on Hawai'i Island. Our mission is to educate the Hawai'i Island communities on recycling and waste reduction activities for a more environmentally sustainable future.

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