



Papa Ola Lokahi
Nana I Ka Pono Na Ma

Papa Ola Lokahi

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Papa Ola Lokahi

is a non-profit Native Hawaiian organization founded in 1988 for the purpose of improving the health and well-being of Native Hawaiians and other native peoples of the Pacific and continental United States.

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HAWAIIAN NINTH-GRADER A SEMIFINALIST IN 2005 DISCOVERY CHANNEL YOUNG SCIENTIST CHALLENGE

(Honolulu, Hawai'i). Papa Ola Lōkahi congratulates Hilo ninth-grader Melissa Pomaika'i Akiko Luga, who has been selected semifinalist in the 2005 Discovery Channel Young Scientist Challenge for her research identifying the phytochemical properties of the paperbark tree.

As a Liko Noelo (budding researcher) Melissa became 'Imi Hale's youngest researcher in 2004 when, as a 7th grader, she was recognized for her natural products research on Allelopathic Potential of the Paperbark Tree (*Melaleuca quinquenervia*). Melissa continued this year with Phase II of the study, which received 'Imi Hale's highest award for cancer prevention and control in the statewide Academy of Science fair, Junior Research Division.

Melissa is now in high school and a boarder at the Kapālama campus of the Kamehameha Schools. She has a promising research career.

Of 400 national semifinalists, 40 will be selected to go to Washington D.C. in October 2005 and compete for a share of over \$40,000 in scholarships and prizes. The finalists will be announced by the Discovery Channel on September 14, 2005. More information on the Young Scientist Challenge can be found at www.discovery.com/dcysc. The Discovery Channel's August 23, 2005 news release is attached.

'Imi Hale is the Native Hawaiian Cancer Awareness, Research & Training Network at Papa Ola Lōkahi funded by the National Cancer Institute to reduce the incidence and mortality from cancer in Native Hawaiians. It is one of only 25 Special Population Networks funded by the NCI-Center to Reduce Cancer Health Disparities, and the only one in the country that is community-based.

Papa Ola Lōkahi, founded in 1988, is recognized by the Native Hawaiian Health Care Improvement Act to improve the health and well-being of Native Hawaiians.

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