The history of the University of Hawai’i is as much a reflection of the Islands as it is the story of a university coming of age. From the very beginning, the University of Hawai’i has been an integral part of the community. It was originally conceived as a college to prepare students to enter Hawai’i’s agriculture-driven economy, and began as the College of Agriculture and Mechanic Arts of the Territory of Hawai’i. From the islands’ plantation era, statehood and tourist boom, to the dawn of the information age, high technology, and globalization, UH has played a significant role in both energizing the economy and engaging the people of Hawai’i.

Today, the university’s presence and influence in the community are far-ranging and can be found everywhere from spectator sports, performing arts, accessible programs that promote lifelong learning, art galleries showcasing striking talents, to active partnerships that prepare our youngest children for academic success.

UH partners include public and private businesses, research centers, and government agencies. Our faculty, staff, and students participate in community outreach programs, providing continuing education and dozens of community service programs.

The University of Hawai’i enriches the community through educational, recreational, and cultural opportunities. It enhances our quality of life.
UH arts and cultural programs bring students and the community talent from Hawai‘i, the East and West. Many of our island residents would never have access to these life enriching experiences were it not for UH. From live music to unforgettable theater, dance to visual arts, poetry to digital media, the campuses of the UH System are centers of dynamic, creative culture. These programs offer island residents exposure:

• UH Mānoa’s Department of Theatre and Dance is internationally acclaimed for its Asian Theatre training program, the only one of its kind outside of Asia. It is also the state’s premiere training ground for students in theatre and dance on undergraduate and graduate levels. The Kennedy Theatre, home for the department, showcases its students in over 15 productions a year, from the classics to contemporary, from both Eastern and Western traditions.

• Since Leeward Community College Theatre celebrated its grand opening in 1974, more than 2.1 million people have experienced the passion of dance, the enchantment of music, the laughter of comedy, and the enlightenment of cultures from around the world.

• UH performance spaces, such as the Windward Community College’s Paliku Theatre, the Performing Arts Center at UH Hilo, and Kaua‘i Community College Performing Arts Center, showcase local artists and productions as well as international performances.

• Hawai‘i Community College’s Hawaiian Life Styles program teaches Hawaiian cultural practices and protocols, hula, arts, crafts, traditional agriculture and fishing, Hawaiian language study, and more.

• Community art and culture classes throughout all ten campuses offer fun learning experiences in areas as diverse as pottery, Korean cooking classes, and learning a new language. These courses are enjoyed by people of all ages, and in 2006 there were more than 80,000 enrollments for these enriching non-credit courses.

• Imiloa Astronomy Center on the Big Island welcomed 50,000 visitors in its first year of operation. This interactive museum and planetarium, located near the base of Mauna Kea volcano also serves as a cultural center with an emphasis on Hawaiian culture and history.

Reflecting Who We Are

Responsible stewardship of our islands is a core value of the University of Hawai‘i. UH’s commitment to sustainability impacts our community in significant and far-reaching ways:

• The College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources Cooperative Extension Service (CES), a partnership between federal, state, and local governments, is part of the world’s largest non-traditional educational system, the Cooperative Extension System. CES serves the community through providing science-based information and educational programs, including workshops, individual consultations, and educational material in agriculture, natural resources, disaster education, and human resources.

• Harold L. Lyon Arboretum, one of the world’s leading centers for tropical plant biology and conservation, has one of the largest palm collections in the world, and is the only university botanical garden located in a tropical rainforest in the United States. It is used for research, community education, and recreation, and is dedicated to preserving Hawai‘i’s biological and cultural diversity.

• Waikiki Aquarium, founded in 1904 has been a part of the University of Hawai‘i since 1919. This dynamic community resource offers exhibits, programs, and research that focus on the aquatic life of Hawai‘i and the Pacific. Each year 350,000 people visit the Waikiki Aquarium which is home to over 2,500 organisms, representing more than 420 species of aquatic animals.

Protecting Where We Live
UH brings us together as a community:

• The Osher Lifelong Learning Institute (OLLI) offers courses to senior students studying for the love of learning at both UH Mānoa and UH Hilo. Nearly 1,300 members have enjoyed this distinctive array of courses and activities since it began in Hawai‘i in 2003.

• UH Athletics at Mānoa and Hilo showcase student athletes, and celebrate healthy competition and team spirit that people of all ages can enjoy and appreciate.

• Forums, conferences, and lectures bring distinguished leaders and teachers to Hawai‘i. These intellectual gatherings are an interactive way to gain knowledge and another perspective. In the end, the cross-pollination of ideas benefits all participants.

ENRICHING OUR LIVES

UH students and graduates serve our community in countless ways every day:

• Teacher training courses prepare qualified, dedicated teachers for work in Hawai‘i’s schools. Teacher graduates are especially needed now as Hawai‘i faces a serious teacher shortage. For example, of the 1,616 teachers hired by the DOE in 2006, only 43.3% had in-state college degrees. The remaining 56.4% was recruited from other states and had out-of-state degrees.

• Since the UH at Mānoa’s Nursing Program was accredited as a 4-year degree program in 1956, the School of Nursing has awarded nearly 3,000 BS degrees. This program offers a solution to the dire shortage of qualified nurses in the state. By 2020, the Center for Nursing projects that more than 2,600 needed nursing positions will go unfilled.

• Medical students offer essential services at a local homeless shelter as they prepare for medical careers to serve our islands and beyond.

• Dental hygiene students offer dental services and hold seminars on dental hygiene, preventative oral health techniques, and healthy eating for low-income families in transitional housing.

• William S. Richardson School of Law’s Elder Law Program (UHELP) is a free, direct service to assist older individuals with legal issues.

SERVING US EVERY DAY

A GIFT TO University of Hawai‘i

We invite you to join us in the Centennial Campaign to secure a strong, vibrant future for our university, our students, and our community. Through private philanthropy, we can enhance and expand the University’s service throughout the islands in so many ways. We can bring leaders to inspire, star faculty to teach, and artisans to celebrate the immense creativity and beauty of the human spirit.

We see the University of Hawai‘i throughout our community, in the arts and culture, in the search for answers to global challenges, and hard at work improving the world for those less fortunate. We live in a better Hawai‘i because of the University of Hawai‘i.

E N G A G I N G T H E C O M M U N I T Y

Opportunities to participate at all levels Key priority funding opportunities include:

Endowed Lecturers
Harold L. Lyon Arboretum
Imiloa Astronomy Center
Waikiki Aquarium
Programmatic Support

TOTAL $5,000,000

For more information on how you can participate, please call (808) 956-8849 or visit www.uhf.hawaii.edu
The University of Hawai‘i System offers higher public education at ten campuses across the Hawaiian Islands with 80,000 students attending classes each year. The UH includes three Universities: University of Hawai‘i at Manoa, University of Hawai‘i at Hilo, and University of Hawai‘i - West O‘ahu. The seven community colleges are Hawai‘i Community College, Honolulu Community College, Kapi‘olani Community College, Kaua‘i Community College, Leeward Community College, Maui Community College, and Windward Community College.

The University of Hawai‘i Foundation, a nonprofit organization, raises private funds to support all ten campuses of the UH System. Its mission is to transform and create a better future for Hawai‘i through alumni and community philanthropic support for public higher education, to be a trusted manager of private investments, and to build and sustain the university’s relationships with donors, alumni, the community, and institutional and university partners.

The Centennial Campaign is a highly inclusive development effort underway in conjunction with the 100th anniversary of public higher education in Hawai‘i. Success is vital to the university’s excellence in its second century. The goal of the Centennial Campaign, as approved by the Board of Regents, is $250 million.

An investment in the University of Hawai‘i is an investment in our community.