

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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HISTORIC URBAN PARKS PRESENTATION & TALK STORY
Community Event will Focus on the History and Significance of Urban Open Space

HONOLULU– Historic Hawai‘i Foundation (HHF) and Hawaiian Islands Land Trust (HILT) will host a free community event on Saturday, April 9. Event partners also include Stanford Carr Development LLC and the organizers of the Kaka‘ako our Kuleana Urban Planning Academy from the University of Hawai‘i at Mānoa’s Department of Urban and Regional Planning.

The event will be held from 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. at the Halekauwila Place Apartments Community Room located at 665 Halekauwila Street in Honolulu. There will be a presentation on the history and significance of the public playground movement and Honolulu’s historic parks and their relevance as community gathering places today. Following the presentation, guests will have the chance to share mo‘olelo about the parks and other open spaces and speak about why they matter. Light refreshments will be served. There will be an optional monthly park clean-up at Mother Waldron Park from 11:00 to 12:00 p.m.

“Ever since King Kamehameha III designated Hawai‘i’s first public park in 1843, parks and playgrounds have played an important role in the social and urban fabrics of Honolulu,” states Kiersten Faulkner, Executive Director of Historic Hawai‘i Foundation. “Residents and visitors alike continue to gather and enjoy opportunities for recreation, socializing, community building

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and connecting to nature that comes with parks and open space. The historic urban parks reflect the landscape design, social organizations and cultural expectations of their times. These rich and inspiring places retain their significance and have much to offer us still today.”

Tina Aiu, HILT’s O‘ahu Director, explains how an event like this reflects HILT’s mission and offers a unique opportunity to hear from the local community. “People's connection to places is the foundation of our work at Hawaiian Islands Land Trust. By drawing out those connections with history and storytelling, we can gain a better understanding of how our organization might serve as a resource to the community in planning for the future of open spaces in Honolulu and across the islands.”

The event will be of interest to kama‘āina who would like to learn more about the historical treasures in their own backyards and who care about preserving open space in urban environments for community use. Visitors with a propensity toward history, landscape architecture, open space and preservation will also be interested to attend.

The event is free and open to the public. Reservations are recommended and may be made online at <https://urbanparktalkstory.eventbrite.com> . Questions about the event may be directed to Historic Hawai‘i Foundation at 523-2900 or outreach@historichawaii.org.

What: Historic Urban Parks Presentation & Talk Story

When: Saturday, April 9, 2016

Time: 9:00 a.m. until 11:00 a.m. *Optional park clean-up at Mother Waldron Park from 11:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.*

Where: Halekauwila Place Apartments Community Room
665 Halekauwila Street, Honolulu

Cost: Free

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Historic Hawaii Foundation: *Helping People Preserve Historic Places.*

HHF is the only statewide non-profit organization dedicated solely to preserving the historic buildings, sites, communities and objects that tell the unique stories of Hawai‘i’s multilayered history. Founded in 1974, HHF has become the driving force behind historic preservation in the state through its core programs of developing a community ethic of historic preservation,

supporting smart legislation, offering educational events and training for local communities and providing technical assistance to make preservation accessible.

Website: www.historichawaii.org

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/HistoricHawaiiFoundation/>

Twitter: @HistoricHawaii

Hawaiian Islands Land Trust:

Hawaiian Islands Land Trust ("HILT") is an independent 501(c)(3) non-profit organization and the first land trust in the State of Hawai'i to receive national accreditation. HILT works to conserve lands that enable Hawai'i's long-term well-being, lands with scenic views, agricultural resources, wildlife habitat, water resource areas, cultural and historic sites, and outdoor recreational opportunities. Our mission is simple: To protect the lands that sustain us for current and future generations.

Website: www.hilt.org

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/hawaiianislands.landtrust/>

Twitter: @HILandTrust

Stanford Carr Development, LLC:

Our Reason for Being: Founded in 1990, our mission is to develop quality residential communities, commercial projects and special needs housing that achieve strong market acceptance and provide long-term value.

Website: www.stanfordcarr.com

Kaka'ako our Kuleana - A Free Urban Planning Academy for Everyone:

was a free workshop series open to the public to learn about the development issues in Kaka'ako and to engage in innovative place-making ideas for Kaka'ako's future. The series organizers who hail from the University of Hawaii at Manoa Department of Urban and Regional Planning, will present a segment at this event.

Website: <http://manoa.hawaii.edu/durp/kakaako-our-kuleana/>