



# BEADIE KANAHIELE DAWSON

HISTORIC  
HAWAII  
FOUNDATION

2019  
KAMA'ĀINA  
OF THE YEAR

“**I am the culmination of my culture and all of the people that have come before me.** If there is any good in me, it's because I have absorbed the spirituality of all who have come before me.

Our obligation is to teach family that they must do the right thing—it is expected of us—and that the right thing is going to be a good thing in the end. I believe that and I live that way.”

# KAMLA'ĀINA Hawaiian Roots, Worldly Adventurer

## Born September 26, 1929

to Hawaiian parents Annie Lehua Asam Kanahale & Francis Ho'oka'amomi "Momi" Kanahale.

## 1937

Dances at the 10th Anniversary celebration of the Royal Hawaiian Hotel as a hula student of Auntie Louise Beamer.

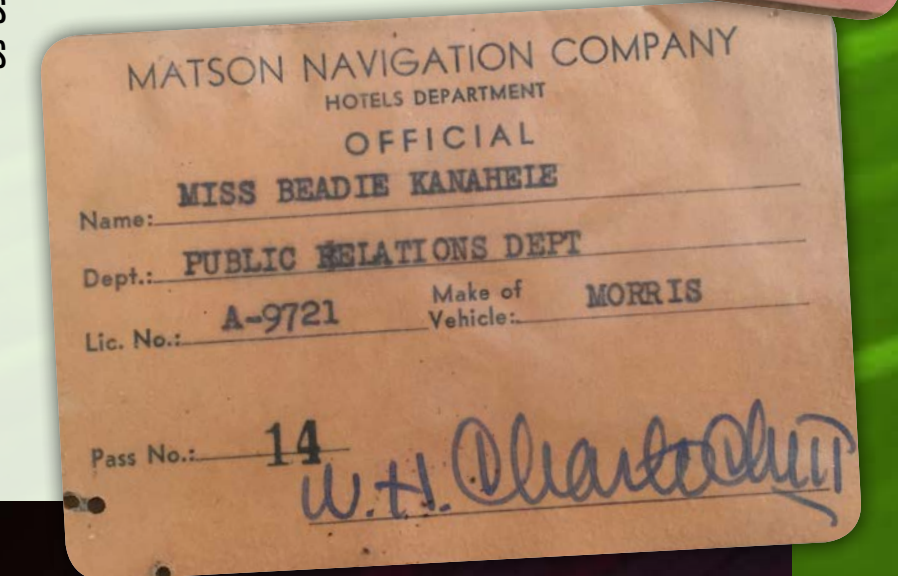
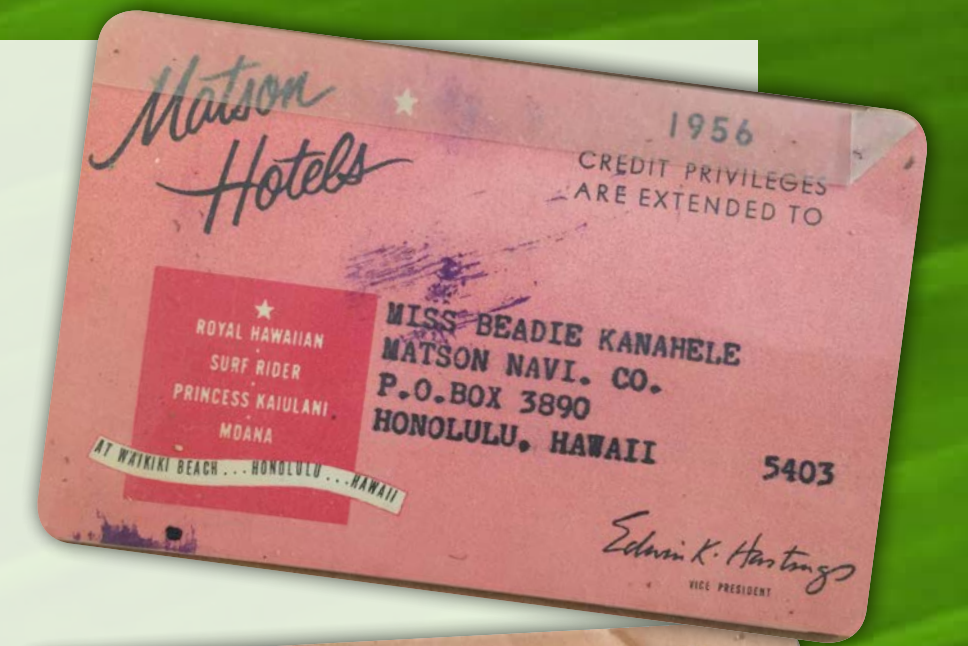
## 1947

Graduates from Punahou, where she is named May Day Queen.

## 1951

Graduates with a degree in Psychology from Whitman College.

Beadie's Matson Hotels credit privileges and parking pass from the 1950s



Beadie as a child in the 1930s



Beadie's mother Annie Kanahale



Beadie's father Francis "Momi" Kanahale



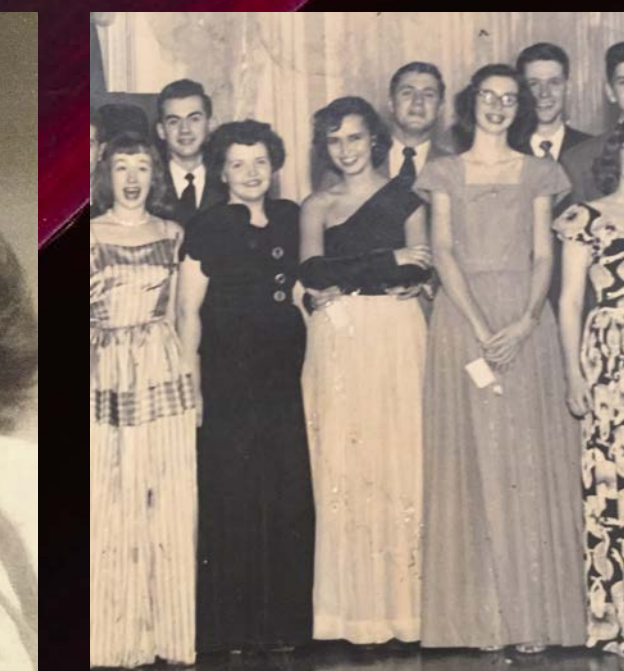
Beadie, second from left, circa age 8 at the 10th Anniversary celebration of the Royal Hawaiian Hotel, where she performs hula with fellow haumana of Beamer's Hula Studio



Holding court as 1947 May Day Queen at Punahou; she danced hula to Mi Nei



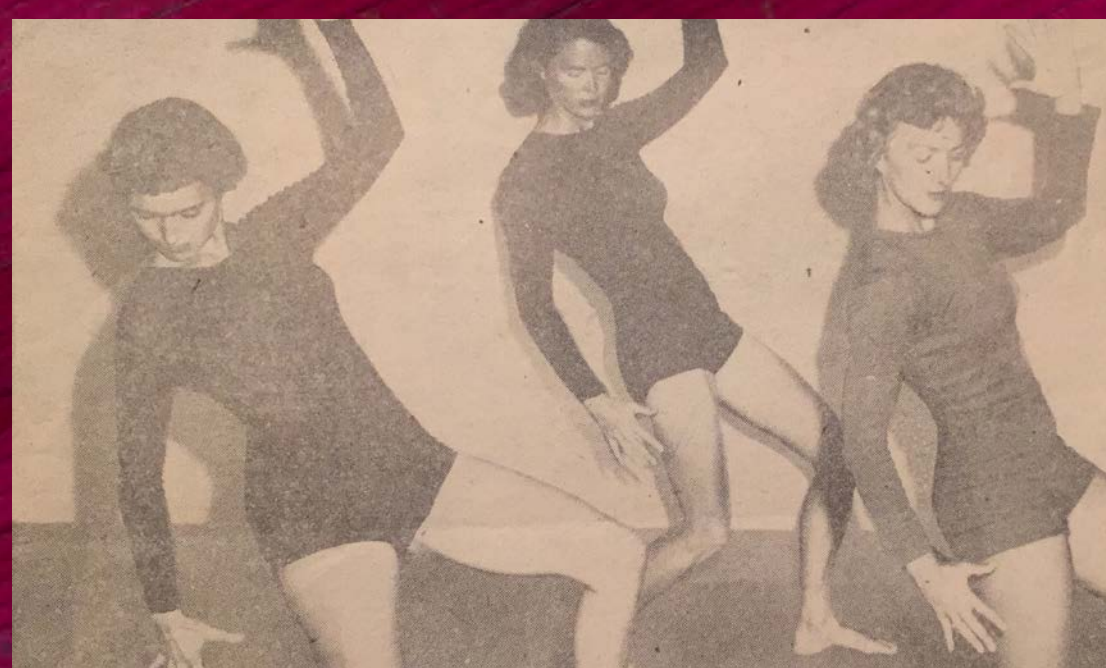
Punahou senior portrait, 1947



Beadie, center, at a Whitman College Ball, circa 1950-1951



Beadie the modern dancer



Beadie, left, performing at the YMCA dance symposium, 1950s



Bedecked with lei for her sendoff to Europe, 1953



Beadie, seated far right, with friends on the lanai of her villa in Palma de Mallorca, circa 1953-1954



Souvenir bullfighting poster she bought in Palma de Mallorca



Beadie on her friend Paco's motorbike, Palma de Mallorca, circa 1953-1954



Beadie interviewing an unidentified celebrity at the Royal Hawaiian circa 1955-1956



Matson Hotels Public Relations Department, circa 1955-56. L-R: Rick Diaz, VP & Head of Public Relations; Geri Bostwick, Assistant; Beadie Kanahale, Assistant Public Relations Director

## 1952-1953

Teaches swimming, diving, and gymnastics at Honolulu YMCA, where she also studies modern dance. Adopts the stage name "Su Young Kanahale," as a Korean dance student of Halla Huhm.

## 1953-1954

Embarks on a European tour of 14 countries and lives in Palma de Mallorca, Spain, where she rides on the back of motorcycles & Vespas, learns to speak "street Spanish," and loves to watch bullfighting.

## 1955-1956

Works in Public Relations for Matson Hotels and interviews top celebrities of the day: Maurice Chevalier, Clark Gable, Charles Schulz, Greta Garbo, a young Grace Kelly, Jimmy Stewart, John Wayne, Fred Astaire & many more...

# KU'U LEI 'Ohana, My Greatest Joy

**1956**

Meets Canadian businessman Donald Roy Dawson at the Moana Hotel, gets married at St. Andrew's Cathedral after a whirlwind romance, and moves to Montreal, Quebec, Canada.

**1957**

Gives birth to her first 2 children in Montreal: Victoria Lani (b. 1957) & Kathryn Malia (b. 1958).

**1959**

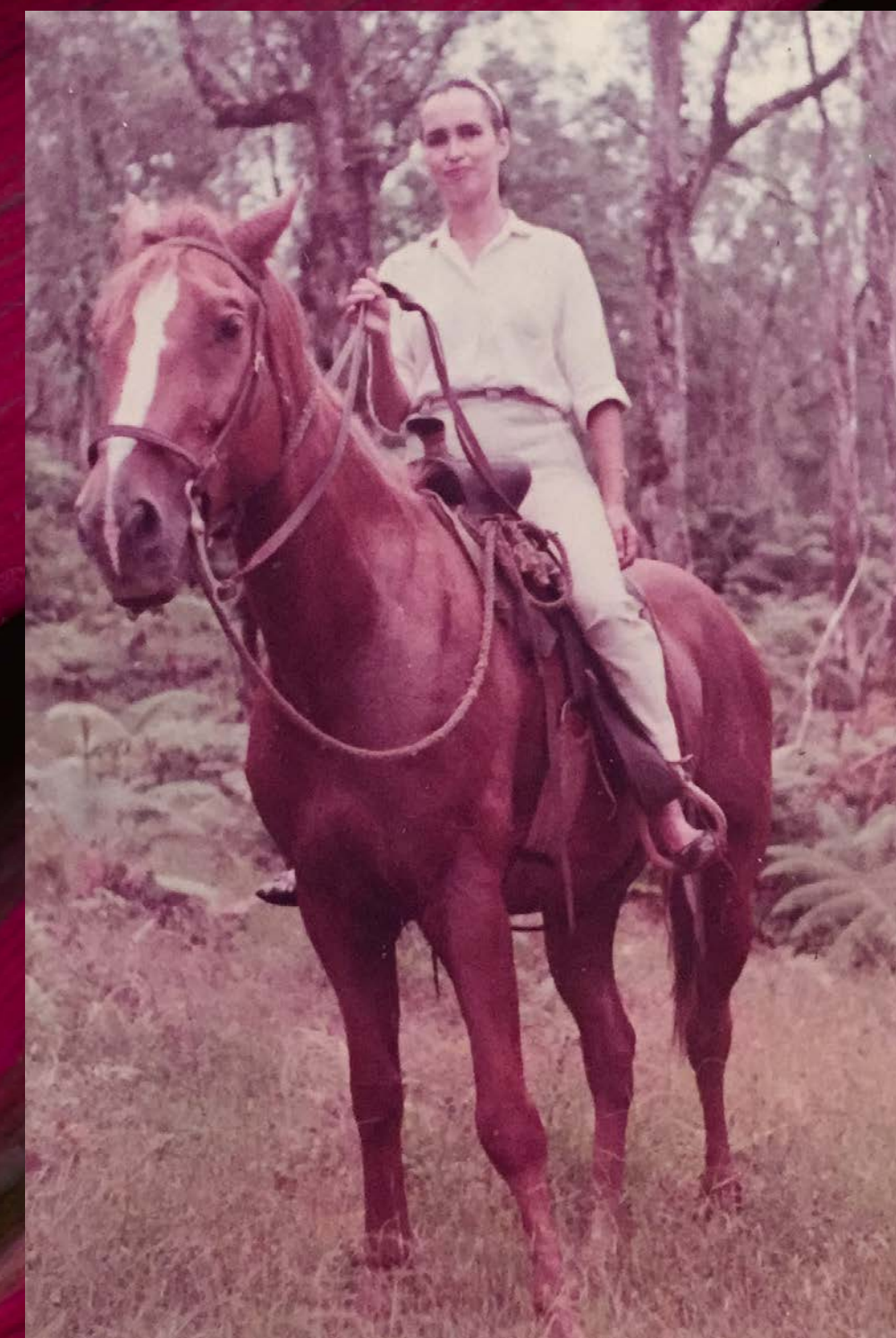
Moves back to Hawai'i, where her 2 youngest children are born: Donne Frances Leinani (b. 1961) & Christopher Ho'oka'amomi (b. 1962).



Beadie & Don Dawson on their wedding day, June 1956



Newlyweds Beadie & Don at a restaurant in Montreal, circa late 1950s



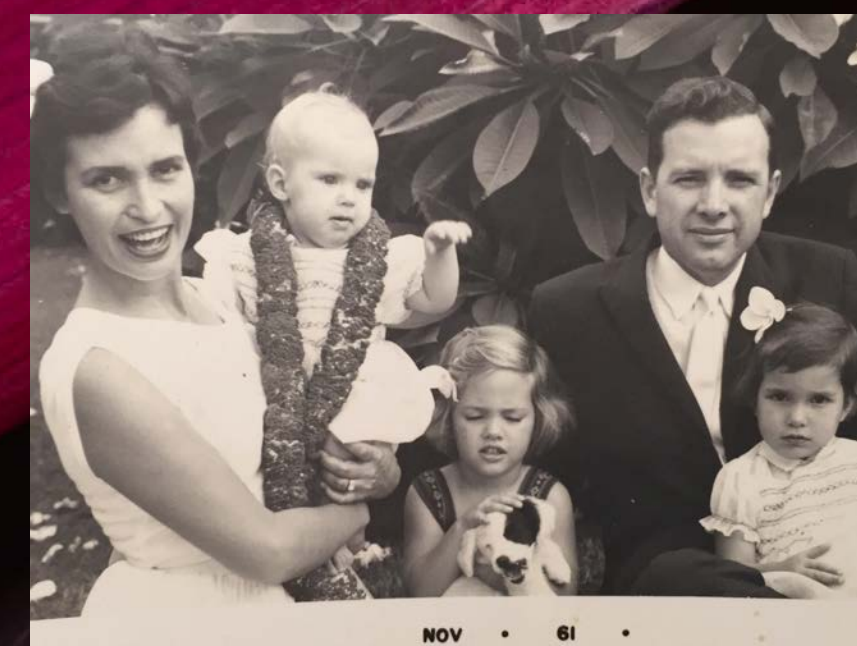
Beadie on Uncle Willie Thompson's horse "Steamboat" at McCandless Ranch, Kona, August 1964



Beadie's 4 children: Lani, Lia, Donne & Chris



Dawson 'ohana, late 50s-early 60s



The Dawson family home, Poihiwahiwa, in Nu'uuanu



**Known as "Puna," she's a mother of four, grandmother of five, and great-grandmother of one.**

# PRESERVING A HAWAIIAN TREASURE Iolani Palace Restoration



**1955-1956**

Proposes to fellow Junior League of Honolulu members that they take on restoration of Iolani Palace as their "pet project," in lieu of the alternative—a children's petting zoo.



Iolani Palace restoration underway, late 60s  
Hawaii State Archives, Photograph Collection PP-10-10-030



Beadie in the late 60s



Beadie at Iolani Palace with Karen Keawehawai'i and Rodney Cazimero, December 2018



Top: Iolani Palace before restoration, circa 1960s  
Hawaii State Archives, Photograph Collection PP-10-10-030

Bottom: Iolani Palace post-restoration

**As part of the nearly 3-year restoration project, Beadie helps start the Friends of Iolani Palace.**

# WAHINE WARRIOR

Attorney At Law, Fearless Advocate For The People

## 1971-1979

Works as Public Information Officer for Hawaii Department of Social Services & Housing under the mentorship of Pinky Thompson, who encourages her to go to law school.

## 1981

Graduates from UH William S. Richardson School of Law at the age of 51 (after raising 4 children!)"

## 1981-1996

As Deputy Attorney General, works on land cases and successfully fights to return more than \$3M in unclaimed funds from the State to the people of Hawaii.



Beadie in the 1970s



Beadie (far right) on campus in her UH law school days, circa 1980



Beadie in the 1980s



Law school graduation at UH, 1981



Law school graduation at UH, 1981



With Senator Dan Inouye, 2000s



Beadie during her tenure at the AG's office, May 1985



Receiving The Distinguished Woman of the Year Award, 1991



Beadie in the 1990s



Beadie as a featured woman lawyer on the cover of Honolulu Magazine, October 1999



Beadie rallying for the cause

## 1997

After retiring from a 15-year career as Deputy Attorney General, takes on the Bishop Estate as pro-bono attorney for the trust's student beneficiaries and Nā Pua A Ke Ali'i Pauahi, a group of KS alumni, faculty & parents. Her tireless advocacy helps restore pono to the "Broken Trust."

## 2000

Co-drafts the original Akaka Bill in support of gaining Federal recognition for Native Hawaiians. Studies Lua with a group of well-known kūpuna under olohe Mitchell Eli.

# E OLA PONO Living Hawaiian Values

“That inner beauty to care for others selflessly is in all of us. This is pono.”

## Circa 1938

First learns the practice and value of ho'oponopono at age 9 from her mother, school teacher & principal Annie Kanahela, who visits troubled students at home for "ohana time" or "family time" (as ho'oponopono was referred to then).

## 1948

Gets first volunteer job at Tripler Hospital (the other Pink Palace), where she does art therapy with psychiatric patients.

## 1950s-Present

Volunteers for scores of organizations (from St. Andrew's Cathedral to Queen Lili'uokalani Children's Center to Historic Hawai'i Foundation and The Friends of the Medical School at UH), advancing countless causes as a board member and roll-up-your-sleeves worker bee.

### HO'OPONOPONO & KAPU ALOHA: Transformative Teachings



Beadie with her parents, her first teachers



Beadie and her mother Annie Kanahela, from whom she learned ho'oponopono



Beadie's mother Annie Kanahela



Beadie, center, teaches ho'oponopono at a 2017 educational session hosted by Hawaii State Judiciary Center for Alternative Dispute Resolution (CADR)



At the 10th Anniversary of 'Ulu'ulu, September 2019



Beadie, with Dr. Noa Emmett Aluli and granddaughter Leina'ala Song, MD, prepares to give a speech at the UH Medical School Kihei Ceremony, May 2019

### LAWELAWE: Serving Her Community



HNC Board members on Kaho'olawe



Kalo flourishing at Lunalilo Home gardens built on DAWSON's 2018 National Day of Service



Beadie with fellow Native Hawaiian community advocate Kekuni Blaisdell and daughter Donne Dawson.



Beadie volunteers at Paepae o Heeia during a DAWSON community work day



Beadie, Donne, and Chris Dawson with Bruce Blankenfeld and Nainoa Thompson of PVS on DAWSON's 2019 National Day of Service

## 1999

Along with daughter Donne, immerses herself in the formal study of ho'oponopono under Auntie Malia Craver.

## 2004

Instrumental in establishing giveback program to benefit the Native Hawaiian community as President of the Hawaiian Native Corporation (HNC), a Native Hawaiian Organization and parent company of DAWSON (founded by son Christopher Dawson).

## 2017-18

Shares principles of ho'oponopono with more than 150 attorneys and judges at two educational sessions on "Native Hawaiian Peacemaking Concepts" hosted by the Hawaii State Judiciary Center for Alternative Dispute Resolution.

## 2018

Inspires DAWSON to launch its annual National Day of Service, a company-wide volunteer day across 15 states in honor of Beadie's birthday.

## 2019

Continues to share the transformative power of ho'oponopono and kapu aloha with others daily.