



HAWAI‘I ACADEMY OF RECORDING ARTS

2015 Nā Hōkū Hanohano Awards Final Ballot Nominees

Voting suggestions: Look over this List of Nominees completely before voting. Nominees in the General and Genre Categories are listed here, so peruse the categories before making your decision. Vote for only one (1) per category.

General Categories

Female Vocalist of the Year

Best performance by a female artist (Choose one)

1. **REBECCA BERALAS**, *Rebecca Beralas* (Leap of Faith)
2. **ERIKA ELONA**, *Things to Break* (‘Aumakua)
3. **GINAI**, *Endless Christmas* (Black Hawaiian)
4. **MAGGIE HERRON**, *Good Thing* (no label)
5. **MAILANI**, *A Lot Like Love* (Hā)

Instrumental Composition

(Composer’s award) Best Achievement in creating a first-time recorded instrumental composition. (Choose one)

1. **“1,000 Crystals,”** by Pali Ka‘aihue from *1,000 CRYSTALS*, Pali Ka‘aihue (PK)
2. **“Kona Hema (South Kona)”** by Ozzie Kotani from *ISLAND VIEW*, Ozzie Kotani (no label)
3. **“Moe’s Lullaby”** by Kawika Kahiapo from *HO‘OMALUHIA*, Kawika Kahiapo (Pono)
4. **“Na Pali”** by Jeff Peterson, Riley Lee, Kenny Endo from *ISLAND BREEZE*, Jeff Peterson, Riley Lee, Kenny Endo (Peterson)
5. **“Uyeda”** by Kenneth Makuakāne from *ALTAR NATIVE*, Kenneth Makuakāne (KMM)

Male Vocalist of the Year

Best performance by a male artist. (Choose one)

1. **RICHARD HO‘OPI‘I**, *The Timeless Voice* (Makai)
2. **KUANA TORRES KAHELE**, *Music for the Hawaiian Islands Vol.2 – Kahelelani Niihau* (KTK)
3. **KAWIKA KAHIAPO**, *Ku‘u ‘Āina Aloha* (Pono)
4. **KUNEWa (MOOK)**, *Oia Ka Manawa* (Kunekona)
5. **KEALI‘I REICHEL**, *Kawaiokalena* (Punahale)

Group of the Year

Best performance by a vocal duo or group. (Choose one)

1. **AMY & WILLIE K**, *Reunion* (Island Soul)
2. **HAWAIIAN STYLE BAND**, *Hānau Hou* (Mountain Apple)
3. **HŪ‘EWA**, *Hū‘ewa* (Hā)
4. **NĀ HOA**, *Cha-lang-a-lang Christmas* (Nā Hoa)
5. **WAIPUNA**, *E Mau Ke Aloha* (Poki)

Most Promising Artist of the Year

Most Promising first-recorded effort as a featured artist or group. (Choose one)

1. **LITO ARKANGEL**, *Me Ke Aloha* (Palm)
2. **HŪ‘EWA**, *Hū‘ewa* (Hā)
3. **KUNEWa (MOOK)**, *Oia Ka Manawa* (Kunekona)
4. **KEIKILANI LINDSEY**, *Mele‘uhane* (Tiki Time)
5. **KAPONO NĀ‘ILI‘ILI**, *Ala Iki – The Path Less Traveled* (Hot Pink)
6. **SEAN ROBBINS**, *Olanui* (Sean Robbins)

Single of the Year

Best-recorded performance of a song released as a single in either physical (CD) or digital format. (Choose one)

1. **“JUMP IN,”** Mailani (Hā)
2. **“KA UA KILIHUNE,”** Hū‘ewa (Hā)
3. **“KI HO‘ALU MAN,”** John Keawe and Sonny Lim (Homestead)
4. **“OHAI ALI‘I KALUHEA,”** Kuana Torres Kahele (KTK)
5. **“ONE MORE DAY,”** Waipuna (Poki)

EP (“Extended Play”) of the Year

Best Extended Play release (between 3 and 8 songs and less than 30 minutes of total playing time) of newly released material. (Choose one)

- 1. **CHA-LANG-A-LANG CHRISTMAS**, Nā Hoa (Nā Hoa)
- 2. **LIVE AGAIN**, Aidan James (no label)
- 3. **LOT LIKE LOVE, A**, Mailani (Hā)
- 4. **NONA KE MELE**, Kenneth Makuakāne (KMM)
- 5. **OUR YOUNGER DAYS**, Stephen Inglis (Rhythm and Roots)

Album of the Year

Best album release of the year. (Choose one)

- 1. ***E MAU KE ALOHA***, Waipuna (Poki) Waipuna and Kale Chang – producers
- 2. ***HŪ‘EWA***, Hū‘ewa (Hā) Kauai Dalire and Sean Na‘auao – producers
- 3. ***KAWAIOKALENA***, Keali‘i Reichel (Punahele) Keali‘i Reichel, Fred Krauss, Jim Linkner, Shawn Pimental, and Michael Grande – producers
- 4. ***KU‘U ‘ĀINA ALOHA***, Kawika Kahiapo (Pono) Kawika Kahiapo and Chris Lau – producers
- 5. ***MUSIC FOR THE HAWAIIAN ISLANDS, VOLUME 2: KAHELELANI NIIHAU***, Kuana Torres Kahele (KTK) Kuana Torres Kahele, Marcus Turner, and Dave Tucciarone – producers

Song of the Year

Best achievement in creating a first-time recorded song. (Choose one)

- 1. ***“A LUNA I KA PALI”*** by Kauai Dalire, Kupu Dalire-Na‘auao, and Sean Na‘auao from *HŪ‘EWA*, Hū‘ewa (Hā)
- 2. ***“HAWAIIAN MAN”*** by Willie K and Amy Hanaiali‘i Gilliom from *REUNION*, Amy & Willie K (Island Soul)
- 3. ***“HE ‘TĪNI NŌ”*** by Kale Hannahs from *E MAU KE ALOHA*, Waipuna (Poki)
- 4. ***“KAWAIOKALENA”*** by Keali‘i Reichel from *KAWAIOKALENA*, Keali‘i Reichel (Punahele)
- 5. ***“WAIMANĀLO”*** by Kawika Kahiapo from *KU‘U ‘ĀINA ALOHA*, Kawika Kahiapo (Pono)

Genre Categories

Contemporary Album of the Year

Best performance in a contemporary style. (Choose one)

- 1. **ALTAR NATIVE**, Kenneth Makuakāne (KMM)
- 2. **CURSE OF THE PRIME RIB POKE**, Vaihi (Vaihi)
- 3. **ONLY LOVE**, Kūlewa (Oversized)
- 4. **REUNION**, Amy & Willie K (Island Soul)
- 5. **WINDS OF THE SEA**, Kawohi Kamaka (Lāhui Project)

Island Music Album of the Year

Best contemporary performance of music of or about Hawai’ i. (Choose one)

- 1. **AINA KAULA**, Keale (Kaula)
- 2. **E MAU KE ALOHA**, Waipuna (Poki)
- 3. **HĀNAU HOU**, Hawaiian Style Band (Mountain Apple)
- 4. **HULA GIRL**, Kenneth Makuakāne and Jeff Rasmussen (KMM)
- 5. **KU‘U ‘ĀINA ALOHA**, Kawika Kahiapo (Pono)

Rock Album of the Year

Best performance of music in a rock style. (Choose one)

- 1. **BOOMBOX STARSHIP**, Busekrus (no label)
- 2. **COLOUR MY SOUL**, Stef Muzic Mariani (Klever Kitty)
- 3. **KICKING AND SCREAMING**, Tavana McMoore (Tavana)
- 4. **KINGS OF SPADE**, Kings of Spade (no label)
- 5. **LIVE DUKE’S ON SUNDAY 2**, Henry Kapono (Kaponono)
- 6. **TURBO PASCAL**, Turbo Pascal (Pass Out)

Hawaiian Music Album of the Year

Best performance of Hawaiian music. (Choose one)

- 1. **HŪ‘EWA**, Hū‘ewa (Hā)
- 2. **KAWAIOKALENA**, Keali‘i Reichel (Punahele)
- 3. **MUSIC FOR THE HAWAIIAN ISLANDS, VOLUME 2: KAHELELANI NIIHAU**, Kuana Torres Kahele (KTK)
- 4. **OIA KA MANAWA**, Kunewa (Mook) (Kunekona)
- 5. **TIMELESS VOICE**, Richard Ho‘opi‘i (Makai)

Jazz Album of the Year

Best jazz performance. (Choose one)

- 1. **ADVENTURES IN HAWAIIAN STEEL GUITAR**, Joel Katz (Joel Katz)
- 2. **GOOD THING**, Maggie Herron (no label)
- 3. **LEIS OF JAZZ, VOL. 2**, Alike Lyman Group (DigiTiki)
- 4. **RHYTHM & UKE**, Abe Lagrimas, Jr. (Pass Out)
- 5. **THEY COME AND THEY GO**, Reggie Padilla (Pass Out)

Instrumental Album of the Year

Best instrumental performance. (Choose one)

- 1. **‘EKAHI**, Bolo (Red Moon)
- 2. **ISLAND BREEZE**, Jeff Peterson, Riley Lee, and Kenny Endo (Peterson)
- 3. **JUS’ CRUZIN’**, Ledward Kaapana (Jus’ Press)
- 4. **MANA ROAD**, Kohala (Palm)
- 5. **ULU WALE**, Shawn Livingston Moseley (‘Aumakua)

Alternative Album of the Year

Best performance of alternative music. (Choose one)

- 1. **KALAKAUA AVENUE**, Streetlight Cadence (Streetlight Cadence)
- 2. **MISSING PIECES**, Laka Kapihe (no label)
- 3. **ONE & ONLY**, Keri Silva (Bandwagon)
- 4. **RAIN WORK**, Hanale Bishop (‘Aumakua)
- 5. **THINGS TO BREAK**, Erika Elona (‘Aumakua)
- 6. **VOYAGER**, Ark Patrol (Heroic)

Christmas Album of the Year

Best performance in a Christmas theme. (Choose one)

- 1. **ENDLESS CHRISTMAS**, Ginai (Black Hawaiian)
- 2. **METAL KALIKIMAKA, VOL. 1**, Tin Idols (Tin Idol)
- 3. **OUR FINEST GIFTS - A CHRISTMAS WISH 2**, Various Artists (Angel Heart)
- 4. **SHAKA KALIKIMAKA**, The Makuakāne ‘Ohana (KMM)
- 5. **UKULELE CHRISTMAS 2, AN**, Various Artists (Neos)
- 6. **WHAT’S UNDER THE TREE**, Dennis and Christy Soares (Elation)

Slack Key Album of the Year

Best Performance of slack key or vocals with slack key accompaniment. (Choose one)

- 1. **HO‘OMALUHIA**, Kawika Kahiapo (Pono)
- 2. **ISLAND VIEW**, Ozzie Kotani (no label)
- 3. **SEEDS OF ALOHA**, George Kahumoku, Jr. (Makai)

Reggae Album of the Year

Best performance of music in a reggae style. (Choose one)

- 1. **ARE YOU IN**, HiRiz (no label)
- 2. **AT THE HEART OF IT**, Dread Ashanti (‘Aumakua)
- 3. **PARADISE**, Kolohe Kai (RKD)
- 4. **SOULJAHZ FOR LIFE**, Rebel Souljahz (Koops2)
- 5. **TO YOU FROM WE**, The Steppas (2econd Street)

Religious Album of the Year

Best performance of religious material. (Choose one)

- 1. **I KAUPAKUEA – WORSHIP IN HILO**, Hilo Missionary Church (HMC)
- 2. **MALAMALAMA**, Kenneth Makuakāne (KMM)
- 3. **MY GOD IS EVERYWHERE**, Dennis and Christy Soares (Elation)
- 4. **TWO WINGS**, Samoan Gospel Heralds (SGH)
- 5. **VICTORIOUS**, New Hope Oahu (Dream Worship)

R&B Album of the Year

Best performance of music in an R&B style. (Choose one)

- 1. **CHOICE IS YOURS**, Kailua Bay Buddies (Daddy Leopard)
- 2. **DO IT RIGHT**, The Candi Factory (Rudeboy)
- 3. **NORTH WIND**, Boogie (‘Aumakua)
- 4. **STICKY ICKY SOUL**, Jaz Kaiwiko‘o (Lāhui Project)
- 5. **WAKING UP**, Maryanne Ito (InTribal Scribings)

Compilation Album of the Year

Producer's award. Best performance of newly released material by a minimum of three distinct artists. Award to local producer(s). (Choose one)

1. **BURIED TREASURES**, Various Artists (Elation) Dennis Soares – producer
2. **HAWAIIAN SLACK KEY KINGS, VOL. 3**, Various Artists (Rhythm and Roots) Chris Lau and Milton Lau – producers
3. **ISLAND STYLE UKULELE 2**, Various Artists (Neos) Bob and Pati St. John – producers

Favorite Entertainer of the Year

Best performance by an artist or group. (Choose one)

1. **AMY & WILLIE K**
2. **HŪ‘EWA**
3. **LEDWARD KAAPANA**
4. **KUANA TORRES KAHELE**
5. **KAWIKA KAHIAPO**
6. **HENRY KAPONO**
7. **MAILANI**
8. **NĀ HOA**
9. **KEALI‘I REICHEL**
10. **WAIPUNA**

Technical Categories

Graphic artists and Liner Notes writers must be residents of the State of Hawai‘i.

Note: Graphics and Liner Notes categories are voted by HARA Regular Members Only

Graphics Award

Award for the best total packaging – exterior (*cover*) and interior (*booklet/insert, disc art*) graphics – that artistically conveys the record’s theme. Digital download–only releases are not eligible for a Graphics award. (Choose one)

1. **WAILANI ARTATES**, for *OLANUI* by Sean Robbins (Sean Robbins)
2. **SCOTT JOHNSON**, for *KAWAIOKALENA* by Keali‘i Reichel (Punahele)
3. **DALEN KAHIAPO AND ALANA KAHIAPO**, for *KU‘U ‘ĀINA ALOHA* by Kawika Kahiapo (Pono)
4. **BRAD KAWAKAMI**, for *ALA IKI – THE PATH LESS TRAVELED* by Kapono Nā‘ili‘ili (Hot Pink)
5. **JOHN MATSUZAKI**, for *E MAU KE ALOHA* by Waipuna (Poki)
6. **B. KANAI‘A NAKAMURA**, for *MUSIC FOR THE HAWAIIAN ISLANDS, VOLUME 2 – KAHELELANI NIIHAU* by Kuana Torres Kahele (KTK)

Liner Notes Awards

Award for best liner notes that enlightens the reader about the artist, the project’s theme, significance of song choices, and in the case of Hawaiian language recordings, provides lyrics and translations. Digital download–only releases are not eligible for a Liner Notes award. (Choose one)

1. **NEIL J. HANNAHS**, for *E MAU KE ALOHA* by Waipuna (Poki)
2. **KUANA TORRES KAHELE**, for *MUSIC FOR THE HAWAIIAN ISLANDS, VOLUME 2 – KAHELELANI NIIHAU* by Kuana Torres Kahele (KTK)
3. **ERIC LEE**, for *ANTHOLOGY: 1994 – 2014* by Eric Lee (Lee)
4. **KEIKILANI LINDSEY**, for *MELE ‘UHANĒ* by Keikilani Lindsey (Tiki Time)
5. **SEAN ROBBINS**, for *OLANUI* by Sean Robbins (Sean Robbins)

Adjudicated Categories

The following categories are judged by separate panels of judges. Listings are for informational purpose only.

Haku Mele Award

(Composer's Award) Best first–released song or chant primarily in the Hawaiian language.

1. *A LUNA I KA PALI*, by *Kauī Dalire*, *Kupu Dalire-Na‘auao*, and *Sean Na‘auao* from HŪ‘EWA, Hū‘ewa (Hā)
2. *HĀLI‘ALI‘A ALOHA*, by *Eric Lee* from HĀLI‘ALI‘A ALOHA, Eric Lee (Lee)
3. *KAWAIOKALENA*, by *Keali‘i Reichel* from KAWAIOKALENA, Keali‘i Reichel (Punahele)
4. *‘O ‘OE NO PAHA IA*, by *Devin Kamealoha Forrest and Keali‘i Reichel* from KAWAIOKALENA, Keali‘i Reichel (Punahele)
5. *‘ŌMATA PAHE‘E TO ALOHA*, by *Kekuhi Keliikanaka‘ole and Keali‘i Reichel* from KAWAIOKALENA, Keali‘i Reichel (Punahele)

Hawaiian Language Performance Award

(Artist Award) Best performance in the Hawaiian language.

- 1. *HŪ‘EWA*, Hū‘ewa (Hā)
- 2. *KUANA TORRES KAHELE*, Music for the Hawaiian Islands, Volume 2 – Kahelelani Niihau (KTK)
- 3. *KAWIKA KAHIAPO*, Ku‘u ‘Āina Aloha (Pono)
- 4. *KEALI‘I REICHEL*, Kawaiokalena (Punahele)
- 5. *WAIPUNA*, E Mau Ke Aloha (Poki)

Engineering Award *(Must be a resident of the State of Hawai‘i)*

Best technical achievement in a sound recording and mix–down.

Hawaiian Genre Category

- 1. MICHAEL GRANDE, JIM LINKNER, AND SHAWN PIMENTAL, for *Kawaiokalena*, Keali‘i Reichel (Punahele)
- 2. CHRIS LAU, for *Ho‘omaluhia*, Kawika Kahiapo (Pono)
- 3. CRHIS LAU, for *Ku‘u ‘Āina Aloha*, Kawika Kahiapo (Pono)
- 4. SHAWN PIMENTAL AND MICHAEL GRANDE, for *Hū‘ewa, Hū‘ewa* (Hā)
- 5. DAVE TUCCIARONE, for *Music for the Hawaiian Islands, Volume 2 – Kahelelani Niihau* , Kuana Torres Kahele (KTK)

Non-Hawaiian Genre Category

- 1. KAPENA DE LIMA, for *The Vitals*, The Vitals (no label)
- 2. KAPENA DE LIMA AND IMUA GARZA, for *Paradise*, Kolohe Kai (RKD)
- 3. MICHAEL GRANDE, for *They Come and They Go*, Reggie Padilla (Pass Out)
- 4. JOEL KATZ, for *Adventures in Hawaiian Steel Guitar*, Joel Katz (no label)
- 5. LOCK LYNCH, for *Choice is Yours*, Kailua Bay Buddies (Daddy Leopard)
- 6. GARIN POLIAHU, for *Hānau Hou*, Hawaiian Style Band (Mountain Apple)

International Album – Special Recognition Award

Award is restricted to non–US artists

- 1. *ANELLA*, Anella (Spirit of J)
- 2. *IN THE MOMENT*, Hook (Hook)
- 3. *JOURNEY WITH UKULELE*, Co-Hal (HAL)
- 4. *KATZ SINGS HULA, VOL.1*, Seiji Katz (Winston)
- 5. *KEPANĪ*, Kentaro Tsushima (School Bus)
- 6. *OVER THE RAINBOW*, Ku‘ulei Mamo (Sma Kine)
- 7. *SHALL WE HULA?*, Māpukiki (Music Well)