

School-Based Initiatives

2022-2023 School Year



GOALS

- Connect Students to ‘Āina and Community
- Build Career Awareness, Engagement, & Respect
- Invest in College and Career Preparation, Access, & Transitions
- Contribute to Conservation Efforts

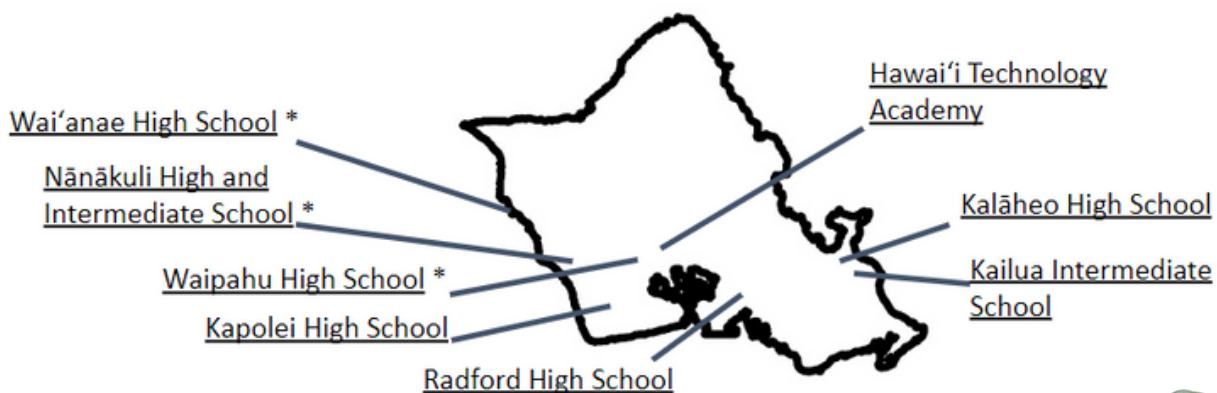
Since 2013, Kupu’s Environmental Education Department has partnered with Department of Education (DOE) schools to provide direct support to educators and students, as well as strategic support at the school or complex level.

Direct support is provided by Environmental Education Leaders (EELs), emerging professionals passionate about teaching natural resources (NR), who work at our partner schools to bring work-based and ‘āina-based learning opportunities to students. Staff support at a systems level to help schools build robust NR programs over the long-term.

During the 2022-2023 school year, six (6) EELs supported eight (8) schools across O‘ahu.

School Year 2022-2023

Partner Schools



* GEAR UP School 2022-2023

Environmental Education Leaders (EELs) Program

EELs engage 6-12 grade students through field trips to natural and culturally significant sites, by bringing in guest speakers and expert professionals, and by developing curriculum. Their work broadens student knowledge, fosters long-term school and industry connections, and helps inspire the next general of local environmental and cultural stewards.

To help them succeed, EELs are supported by staff in their work with schools as well as in their personal and professional growth. The 2022-2023 EEL cohort received training in topics like First Aid, mental health, lesson planning, and public speaking; attended conferences; received mentorship and guidance; engaged in team building exercises, and earned their certification to substitute teach.



"Before I started this job, I wasn't sure if I wanted to be an educator, but I have learned that I enjoy inspiring and motivating students in the fields of conservation and Hawaiian Studies."

—Pōmai, Wai'anae EEL

Bright Spots Direct Support

- **Nānākuli High and Intermediate School** - The Kupu EEL created and implemented a Mālama 'Āina Club which engaged 64 students in 810 hours of service during field trips where they learned about, connected with, and gave back to significant cultural and natural sites within the school's wider community.
- **Coastal Stewards Program** - Kupu EELs convened students monthly from Hawai'i Technology Academy and Radford and Waipahu High Schools to engage in marine stewardship activities, mālama Kapapapuhi Point Park, and learn from professionals about current marine issues impacting Hawai'i.



351 WBL Opportunities Provided

829 Students Impacted

Strategic Support

To support students and educators we offer strategies and accompanying resources to guide career and postsecondary exploration and pursuit, promote student enrollment in NR pathways, and build alignment opportunities between high and intermediate schools.



"[Kupu's support] has a priceless impact on student education and career readiness. As a teacher, academy, and a community member, we appreciate all that you do."

—Maile Resurrection, Kapolei High School

Bright Spots Strategic Support

- **Radford High School** - helped restructure the 4-year plan for Radford High School's Natural Resources Pathway by creating the Program of Study: Science Exploration and Natural Resources Management.
- **Kalāheo High School** - guided the establishment of the first Advisory Board for Kalāheo High School's Academy of Natural Resources.
- **Advisory Boards** - participated in Campbell, Waipahu, and Pearl City High Schools' and Nānākuli High and Intermediate School's NR Academy Advisory Boards.
- **Kailua Intermediate School** - experimented with alignment opportunities between the Kailua Intermediate School and the high school it feeds into (Kalāheo High School) around curriculum, recruitment, and communication.

Enrollment: From School Years 2021-22 to 2022-23, enrollment in NR Pathways increased 42% based on student enrollment across 4 schools for which we have data (Kalāheo, Kapolei, and Waipahu High Schools; and Nānākuli High and Intermediate School).

Department of Education - We solicited professional, educator, and public input to drastically improve and inform the Agriculture, Food, and Natural Resources standards put forth by the DOE to ensure Hawai'i students are receiving relevant, place-based training.

Mahalo to Our Partners and Funders



PARTNERS



We have the privilege of partnering with the following organizations to bring work-based and 'āina-based learning opportunities to Hawai'i's students.

Bishop Museum • Camp Pālehua • Department of Land & Natural Resources (DLNR)
 Genki Ala Wai Project • Hawai'i Plantation Village • Healthy Climate Communities
 Hui Mālama i ke Ala 'Ūlili (huiMAU) • Hui O Ho'ohonua • Hui O Ko'olaupoko
 Ka'ala Farms • Kaiser Permanente Kapolei Clinic Kupukaoha • Kāko'o 'Ōiwi • KEY Project
 Ko'olau Mountain Watershed Partnership • Kua 'Āina Ulu 'Auamo (KUA)
 Kuahiwi Fencing and Wildlife Services LLC • Kumuola Marine Science Education Center
 Kupuna Council • Loko I'a Pā'aiau • Mālama Learning Center • Mālama Loko Ea
 MA'O Organic Farms • Mari's Garden • Mauliola O Ke'ehi • Miloli'i Fishing Village
 Moanalua Gardens Foundation • Nā Wai 'Ekolu • National Ocean and Atmospheric Administration
 Natural Energy Laboratory of Hawai'i Authority (NELHA) • National Parks Service (NPS)
 Oahu Invasive Species Commission • Oceanic Institute of Hawai'i Pacific University
 Pacific Aquaculture & Coastal Resource Center • Paepae O He'eia • Pals and Places
 Pouhala Marsh • Reppun Farms • Symphony of the Hawaii Forests • Ulu A'e Learning Center
 University of Hawai'i - Mānoa • University of Hawai'i - West O'ahu • University of Hawai'i at Hilo
 US Fish & Wildlife Service • Waianae Mountain Watershed Partnership



FUNDERS

The Environmental Education Leaders Program and our School-Based Initiatives would not have been possible without the support from the following:

GEAR Up Hawai'i • Hawai'i P-20 • Hau'oli Mau Loa Foundation • Pisces Foundation

