

The Maui News

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75 CENTS

16 boys, girls take part at Hula O Na Keiki

LAHAINA — Sixteen children between the ages of 5 and 17 competed last week in Ka'anapali Beach Hotel's 21st annual Hula O Na Keiki competition.

In the three-day event, Kamalani Kaleimomi Kahalepoli Kawa'a emerged as the overall girls' winner. The 16-year-old dances with Halau Kekuaokala'au'ala'iliahi under the direction of na kumu hula 'Iliahi and Haunani Pardes.

The overall boys winner was Alexander Kawika Guerrero, 17, of Halau Hula Kauluokala, under the direction of kumu hula Uluwehi Guerrero.

Dancers were judged on their style of chanting, interpretation of the dances, and cultural appropriateness of costumes and adornments. Contestants were also scored on interviews with a panel of judges, who questioned their thoughts on dance, costume selection including adornments, and proper use of the Hawaiian language.

Children entered as soloists or palua, boy and girl pairs. The competition included performances of kahiko (ancient) and 'auana (modern) hula

styles. Participants competed for cash and prizes.

Hula O Na Keiki is a non-profit event established by the staff of Ka'anapali Beach Hotel in 1990. Hotel and community employees volunteer their time for the event, which perpetuates and promotes awareness of Hawaiian culture through music and dance, according to a release.

Other top winners included:

• Interview awards

Keiki (ages 5-12)
Logan Kainalu Rinichi Takizawa, 12
Halau Kala'akeakauikawekiu
Kumu hula "Aloha" Kenneth Dean Alohapumehanaokala Victor

'Opio (ages 13-17)
Alexander Guerrero

• Costume and Adornment awards

Keiki Kahiko
Logan Takizawa

'Opio Kahiko
Kamalani Kawa'a

Keiki 'Auana
Mahina Akaka, 9
Ka Hale I o Kahala
Kumu hula Leimomi Maldonado



ZANE MATHIAS photos

Kamalani Kaleimomi Kahalepoli Kawa'a, 16, was the overall wahine winner at Ka'anapali Beach Hotel's 21st an-

nual Hula O Na Keiki competition. **Alexander Kawika Guerrero, 17,** was the overall kane winner.

'Opio 'Auana
Kamalani Kawa'a

First Place
Lilianani Pi and Logan Takizawa

Keiki Palua
Lilianani Maya Rae Pi, 10
and Logan Takizawa
Halau Kala'akeakauikawekiu

'Opio Palua
Nicole Nakamatsu and Joshua Nakamatsu

'Opio Palua
Nicole Punahale Makamai Kahi 'O Milliani Nakamatsu, 16
and Joshua Kaleikaumaka 'O Milliani Nakamatsu, 14
Ka Hale I o Kahala

• 'Oli Awards

Keiki Kane 'Oli
First Place
CJ Kamuela Rodrigues Jr., 7
Halau Hula Na Mea Makamae 'O Kapualehua I Kaukeha
Na kumu hula Kamuela and

• Palua Awards
Keiki Palua

Mahailani Rodrigues

Keiki Wahine 'Oli
First Place
Chaunte Ku'ulei Pumehana Dela Cruz, 12
Halau Kala'akeakauikawekiu

'Opio Kane 'Oli
First Place
Alexander Guerrero

'Opio Wahine 'Oli
First Place
Kamalani Kawa'a

• Overall Music

Halau Hula Kualuokala
Kumu hula Uluwehi Guerrero
• Keiki Kane Hula
First Place
Logan Takizawa

• Keiki Wahine Hula
First Place
Chaunte Dela Cruz

• 'Opio Kane Hula
First Place
Alexander Guerrero

• 'Opio Wahine Hula
First Place
Kamalani Kawa'a

HAKU MO'OLELO



EDWIN TANI

News stories this week highlighted the issues of a growing "wealth gap" in the United States and a higher level of poverty discerned by a new method for measuring relative wealth.

A Census Bureau report, "The Research Supplemental Poverty Measure: 2010," expands on a September Census Bureau report that 46.2 million Americans were below the poverty line — a standard based on family size and income. The Supplemental Poverty Measure refines the

data to reflect all costs for basic needs — including housing, utilities, transportation, child care and medical care — to determine that 49.1 million Americans were in poverty. It remains a resource for discussion and does not displace the standard for determining assistance.

The standards are inadequate but that is only part of the problem. Neither measurement deals with a primary issue of how to lift families out of poverty.

Americans have been divided on the issue. A 2001 survey found an even split on responsibility for poverty — whether individuals are in poverty for circumstances beyond their control or through their own failings; 45 percent believing circumstances are the cause and 48 percent believing individuals don't do

ed influence on political decisions. ("Polarized America," McCarty, Poole and Rosenthal, MIT Press, 2008)

The negative perceptions — of personal failings and the immigration taint — likely contribute to increased resistance to government services to the poor, voiced by Tea Party adherents opposed to taxation and "redistribution of income."

Presidential candidate Herman Cain epitomizes the simplistic vision of American individualism caricatured in the 19th century by Horatio Alger, embellished to heroic proportions in post-War America by Ayn Rand and promoted with a fringe of malice by Ann Coulter and Michelle Malkin.

Individualism is a belief that individuals are responsible for their success, overcoming ob-

ward short-term gains in a global market over long-term growth and community strength.

Not all share the philosophy of individualism.

An advocacy group that prepares a more comprehensive measure of family income needs — raising the bar on poverty standards — also promotes education provided by society and government as a way to reduce the numbers in poverty. Wider Opportunities for Women (www.wowonline.org) conducts periodic studies to establish a Basic Economic Security Table — a measure of the costs of essentials for a family: housing, utilities, food, transportation, child care, personal care products (clothing, cleaning products), health care — as well as allotments for savings and taxes.