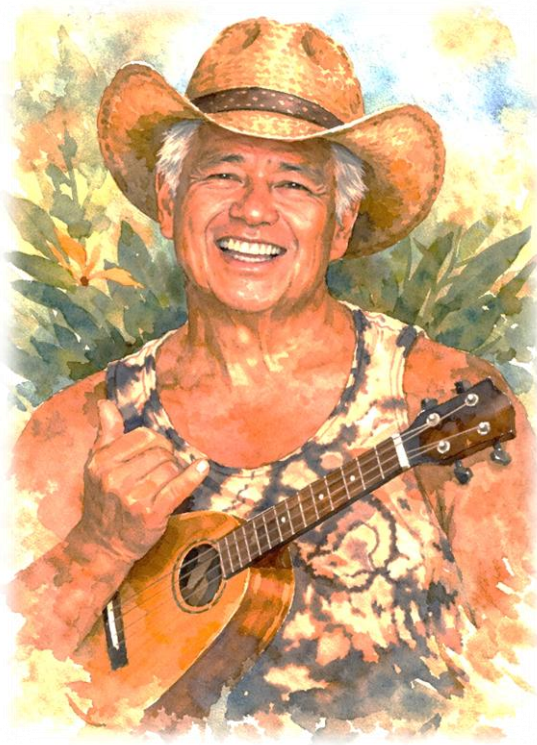




Student Packet



October 1, 2026

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GENERAL INFORMATION

Dear Workshop Students,

We are delighted that you are joining us for the 29th George Kahumoku Jr. Slack Key Guitar & 'Ukulele Workshop and another wonderful week of learning about Hawaiian music and culture. Once again, we're looking forward to seeing old friends and welcoming new ones to the Kahumoku workshop 'Ohana.

This Student Information Packet contains general information about the workshop and will hopefully answer any questions you have. If you need further information of any kind, please contact us at mauiworkshop@gmail.com or check out the [FAQ page](#) on the Kahumoku.com web site. Be sure to bring this information packet to the workshop with you.

PAYMENT OF BALANCES

If your tuition balance was not paid (by credit card or PayPal) at the time that you registered online, you can pay your balances by using the [Workshop Payment Page](#).

If you have any questions, please let us know.

Registration Cancellation Policy: A cancellation service charge of 4% of total registration fees is applied to refunds made up to 60 days before the workshop start date. After 60 days before the workshop, the cancellation service charge is 8% of the total registration fees. Exceptions to this policy are made in cases of medical emergency or pandemic-related travel restrictions.

ARRIVAL

Workshop check-in is from 1:00 to 3:00 pm on Wednesday June 2nd in the *Aloha Pavilion* at the Napili Kai Beach Resort, our workshop headquarters again this year. Late arrivals can also check-in Thursday morning. There will be an orientation meeting for first-time students from 4:00 – 5:00 pm on Wednesday afternoon after check-in. This meeting is optional but highly recommended, especially for new students.

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TRANSPORTATION

If you are arriving by air into Kahului, you can carpool, rent a car, or use local transportation to reach the workshop site in Napili. While it is not necessary to rent a car for use during the workshop, you may find it convenient if your plans include sightseeing before or after the workshop. While all the major rental agencies (Hertz, Avis, Dollar, Budget) operate at the airport, we encourage patronizing local businesses. One of our favorite local rental companies (that offers discounts to workshop students) is:

Aloha Rent a Car – 808-877-4477 (www.mauirentacar.com)

Airport shuttle service is available between Kahului and the Napili Kai from:

Speedi Shuttle, 877-242-5777, www.speedishuttle.com, (check with them for recent prices).

Uber, Lyft, and Holoholo rideshare services operate on Maui, though pricing information for rides between the airport and the Napili Kai is not available currently. Use the services' web apps to obtain fare estimates.

When possible, we encourage carpooling between Kahului and the Napili Kai. We publish carpooling requests and offers in our Workshop Newsletters that are sent out to workshop students beginning in April, 2027. If you would like to explore the carpooling opportunity, log in to our [Room/Rideshare page](#) or send us an email at mauiworkshop@gmail.com, and we will put you on the list.

The Napili Kai Beach Resort is located at 5900 Lower Honoapiilani Road, in Napili - West Maui. Driving distance from Kahului is 33.2 miles, but allow approximately one hour drive time.

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CHECK-IN PACKAGE

At check-in, you will receive the following items:

- **Workshop T-shirt** - that you ordered during online workshop registration. You'll wear these for the group photo on the last day, and for the Student Performance that night.
- **He Mele Hawai'i** – The workshop songbook contains over 120 traditional Hawaiian songs, with background notes, lyrics, chords and translation of the Hawaiian lyrics. Songs that we play at Kanikapila, and many of the songs that instructors use in classes are drawn from the songbook. Students may choose paper/hardcopy or electronic/PDF versions of the songbook during online registration.
- **Dis 'n Dat** – A sourcebook/reference manual that contains useful information for both guitar and 'ukulele students, including chord charts in multiple keys and instrument tunings, chord runs, turnarounds/vamps, scales, and a bit of music theory. This manual will also be available in both hardcopy and electronic formats.
- **Workshop Class Schedule** – We will send out preliminary copies of the workshop schedule prior to the workshop for your planning purposes. The final “official” version will be included in your check-in package.
- **Name Tag** – With lanyard.
- **Admission to the Wednesday** “Slack Key Shows – Masters of Hawaiian Music”. Each person who registers for the workshop receives admission to Wednesday night shows at both the beginning and end of the workshop week. Tickets are not necessary, your name tag confirms you are a workshop student and grants you admission to the show. Admission for guests can be purchased during online workshop registration or at the workshop.

WORKSHOP MEALS

Except for dinners on Sunday and the final Wednesday, the 2027 workshop registration fee includes all breakfasts, lunches, and dinners during the workshop week. A continental breakfast will be provided each morning in the Aloha Pavilion and dinners and lunches will be catered by local catering services.

For those with dietary restrictions or food allergies who would prefer to provide their own meals, the workshop is offering a “no meals” registration option at a discounted rate. See the website for pricing information.

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HOTEL ACCOMMODATIONS

Our workshop headquarters again this year is the Napili Kai Beach Resort, where all classes and workshop activities will be held. The Napili Kai offers special discounted room rates for workshop students: \$280/night with full kitchen, \$275 per night with mini-fridge and microwave, plus local taxes and maid gratuity. These rates apply to stays beginning three days prior to the workshop through the final workshop day. There are a limited number of rooms available at this rate, so workshop attendees are encouraged to make reservations early. Reservations for rooms at the workshop discount rate must be made online (do not phone the hotel), as part of the workshop registration process. If you would like to make a reservation at the Napili Kai but did not do so during online registration, email us at mauiworkshop@gmail.com for a link to the online Reservation Form.

We expect that rooms at the Napili Kai will sell out quickly again this year, so we recommend registering for the workshop and making reservations as early as possible. If workshop rooms are sold out, you can ask to be placed on the waiting list, as cancellations sometimes occur.

The Mauian Hotel is next door to the Napili Kai and offers special rates to workshop students for partial ocean view studios. Contact the hotel for rates and reservations at 808-669-6205 and identify yourself as a workshop student.

We recommend that our workshop students consider staying at the Napili Kai for the following reasons:

- Being “on campus” will eliminate the commute time, which can be tiring as the week progresses, keeping in mind that our jam sessions end around 9:30pm and morning meetings begin the next day at 8:30am. That commute time could be spent practicing & reviewing, or relaxing & sleeping, to digest the day’s information.
- A room at the Napili Kai will provide a personal space in which to rest, nap, grab a snack, easily retrieve instruments, take a cool shower, or practice undisturbed throughout the day.
- Non-resident students are required to park outside of the hotel on nearby streets, while students staying at the Napili Kai receive parking passes for access to more convenient hotel parking lots.
- For the special discounted room rates mentioned above, the Napili Kai offers resort rooms with full or partial kitchens, daily maid service, air conditioning, access to swimming pools and Jacuzzi, laundry facilities, a full restaurant on site... all steps away from a beautiful white sandy beach!

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SCHOLARSHIP/WORK-STUDY STUDENTS AND WORKSHOP STAFF

If you are a scholarship/work-study student or workshop staff member, you are required to attend a meeting on Wednesday prior to the workshop to receive your assignments & responsibilities for the week. Check the Workshop Schedule for time and place.

GUEST POLICY

Visitors are welcome to attend the evening kanikapilas, the *Open Mic Night* on Monday, and, the *Student Performance Night* on the final Wednesday. Visitors are not permitted to attend workshop classes, meals, or other events unless prior arrangements are made with George or Nancy Kahumoku. A **Companion** program is available to those accompanying a registered student but not participating in music or culture classes. This program includes all lunch and dinner meals, a workshop t-shirt, and admission to both Wednesday **Masters of Slack Key** shows. Registration for this program can be done online through the Workshop Registration page on the Kahumoku.com website.

WORKSHOP SONGS

Each year, two songs are selected from the workshop songbook, *He Mele Hawai'i*, to be the official workshop performance songs. These songs will be performed together with participating instructors at the *Student Performance Night* on the final Wednesday of the workshop. Students in the Performance Hula class will also learn a hula to one of these songs. (For those who want to get a head start, the workshop song titles will be announced in the Workshop Newsletter, "Maui Workshop Notes".)

THE WORKSHOP STORE

Instructor music CDs, instructional DVDs, books, craft items, and other workshop collectibles can be purchased at the Workshop Store in the Aloha Pavilion. The store is open most evenings during the workshop from 5:00 to 7:00 pm.

PRIVATE LESSONS

During the workshop, instructors offer private lessons in addition to group classes. Students sign up for private lessons each day for lessons on the following day. The Sign up process involves viewing the Private Lesson web site on your smart phone or tablet, and making sections from the available timeslots. If you don't plan to bring a suitable device, no problem, the workshop will provide a tablet for this purpose. There is no additional charge for private lessons; they are included in your workshop tuition. Don't fail to take advantage of this opportunity – it's sure to be one of the highlights of your workshop experience!

OPEN MIC NIGHT

Open Mic Night will be Monday evening (Day 5) from 7:30 to 9:30 pm. This traditional workshop activity is an opportunity for students to perform on stage at the Aloha Pavilion for a very supportive

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audience – namely, the rest of the workshop students! Most students stick to Hawaiian material, but any music genre is welcome. Instructors often attend the event and make themselves available as accompanists upon request. If you want an instructor to accompany you on stage, but sure to let them know a couple of days in advance so they can be prepared. Open Mic performance slots will be in high demand, so each act is limited to one song and five minutes total stage time. The sign-up sheet for Monday night will be available at the Monday morning group meeting.

WORKSHOP MUSIC TRACK

On most workshop days, there are five one-hour class periods scheduled. Exceptions are:

- Thursday morning, the Workshop Welcome Meeting is held during the first session, leaving 4 session for the rest of the day
- Sunday – There are two class periods in the morning, and no classes after lunch.

You'll find instrument "level" classes in the morning sessions, i.e. the Beginning, Intermediate and Advanced classes. It's not necessary to sign up for classes... just show up and grab a chair! If you're not sure about your level, try a class that you think might fit. If it doesn't, try another class. Some level classes are progressive, where the instructor develops material over multiple days. Other classes are standalone classes where all material is covered in a single class. Check with the instructor if you want to find out which teaching approach they're using.

Afternoon classes, unlike the level classes, cover a range of topics, like picking styles, songwriting, chord variations, and jamming with others. They are generally open to all levels, unless otherwise noted in the schedule.

In planning your schedule for the workshop, consider the unique opportunity to take advantage of classes outside of your discipline – they can enhance your musical and cultural education in ways you may not have considered. If you are an instrumentalist, consider dropping in on a hula class, attending one of the craft classes or a voice class. This is a chance to think out of the box and enhance your workshop experience.

CULTURE/CRAFTS TRACK

Culture/crafts classes are scheduled throughout the workshop day. The Hawaiian language ('olelo), choir, hula, lauhala & coconut leaf weaving classes are progressive, i.e., material and crafts are developed over the course of several classes. Other classes, such as Voice and 'Ukulele Intro, are one-day classes.

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You can attend as many as 5 classes per day, but don't feel the need to attend a class every session ...you may become victim to "workshop burnout". There's a ton of information to absorb every day, so it's a good idea to take a break now and then (e.g., go for a swim, take a nap, or join one of the impromptu jams) to give your brain – and fingers – a rest.

2027 WORKSHOP WEEK

Class sessions are shown in yellow.

Wed	Session	Time	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	
Check-In Day		7:00 - 8:30	Breakfast (7:00am - 8:30am)							
		8:30 - 9:00	Break	Morning Meeting (8:30am - 9:00am)					Class Photo	
	1	9:15 - 10:15	Welcome Meeting	5	10	15	17	22		
10:00-11:00 Volunteers Meeting	2	10:30 - 11:30	1	6	11	16	18	23	Dress Rehearsal	
		12:00 - 1:15	Lunch							
1:00--3:00 Check-in	3	1:30 - 2:30	2	7	12	Free Time	19	24	Free Time	
3:00 - 4:00 Orientation	4	2:45 - 3:45	3	8	13		20	25		
	5	4:00 - 5:00	4	9	14		21	26		
5:00 - 6:00 Welcome Dinner		5:00 - 6:00		Break		Dinner on Your Own	Break		Dinner on Your Own	
		6:00 - 7:00	Dinner				Dinner on Your Own	Dinner		
6:30 - 8:15 Masters of Slack Key Show										Slack Key Show and Student Performance
		7:30 - 9:00	Kanikapila				Open Mic	Kanikapila		

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THINGS TO BRING TO THE WORKSHOP – Personal Items

WORKSHOP ATTIRE

It's warm in Napili (low to mid-eighties daytime, upper seventies at night) so pack accordingly: shorts and t-shirts are standard everyday wear, while for ladies, a popular option is a cool sun dress. For evening kanikapila, the welcome dinner, dining out, etc. aloha attire would be appropriate, along with a lightweight jacket for the occasional cool evenings. Flip-flops ("slippahs" to Hawaiians) are standard footwear... for all occasions.

Don't forget your bathing suit – the Napili Kai sits on one of Maui's most beautiful beaches, and the swimming and snorkeling in the crystal-clear waters of Napili Bay are superb! Snorkeling gear can be rented at Snorkel Bob's Dive shop, next door to the Napili Kai. Chargers and batteries for any electronic gear or cameras you plan to bring should be on your list, but keep in mind that there are stores close by that sell all the supplies you're likely to need (or forgot to bring.)

Washing Machines: There are coin-operated washing machines and dryers at the Napili Kai, and laundry soap is provided. These machines also have a mobile app for credit card payments.

THINGS TO BRING TO THE WORKSHOP

INSTRUMENTS

You can either bring your own instrument, or rent one on Maui. Our recommended rental source for guitars and 'ukuleles is Lahaina Music, in Ka'anapali. Contact the owner, Jason Jerome, at 808-661-7625 to check on instrument availability. Instruments can also be purchased and rented from Bounty Music in Kahului near the airport.

Bounty Music

111 Hana Hwy #105, Kahului
808-871-1141

If you would like to try a Hawaiian Steel Guitar class but don't own a steel guitar, we will have a limited number of instruments at the workshop to loan, and some "nut extenders" that can temporarily convert your steel string guitar for the class and practicing. Because the number of loaner instruments is limited, if you can, please consider bringing one to ensure you'll have an instrument to use in classes.

Amplifiers – Students should plan on bringing and playing acoustic instruments. Amplifiers are not permitted for use in classes or kanikapila (other than for steel guitars).

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OTHER RECOMMENDED ITEMS:

- Extra string sets
- Electronic tuner
- Lightweight, collapsible music stand
- Clothes pins or magnets, to hold paper music sheets to your stand
- Tote bag or backpack to carry gear, class materials, etc.
- Polishing cloth to wipe down your instrument
- Notepad, pen/pencil
- Water bottle

Optional Items:

- Portable recording device*, batteries
- iPad or similar tablet device
- Still/video camera*

Wi-Fi is available at the Napili Kai, and cell phone reception is fine with all the major carriers.

*Some instructors have policies regarding video or audio recording during workshop classes. Always check with instructors first.

WORKSHOP GUIDELINES AND CLASS ETIQUETTE

- Students are expected to be respectful of the instructor and other students in classes. Students should refrain from “noodling” on their instrument or talking with other students while the instructor is speaking or playing. Play when the instructor asks you to play, otherwise, refrain. You will have plenty of time to practice later!
- Napili Kai Quiet Hours – Are from 10pm to 8am. Workshop students are expected to be considerate of other hotel guests and limit practicing, jamming, singing, etc. to non-quiet hours.
- Smoking – is not allowed in workshop classes, kanikapila, meals, or other workshop events. Smoking is allowed in designated outside areas at the Napili Kai. Check with the hotel for details.
- Alcohol – Generally, alcohol consumption is not conducive to the learning process and is discouraged during workshop activities. Some participants may bring a glass or decanted wine to dinner, which is ok. Obnoxious, disruptive, or discourteous behavior related to alcohol consumption will not be tolerated and may be grounds for the termination of workshop privileges.

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CAMPUS MAP

