



Mahalo to 2023 Hawaii's Woodshow Artists, Sponsors & Attendees



Best In Show "Spark" by Luke Shaffer. Photo: Bard Goda 2023

The 2023 Hawaii's Woodshow, Na La'au o Hawai'i, announced its 2023 Award Winners. This year's Show featured 91 original pieces crafted by 48 individual artists. The artist categories include Master, Main, and Novice artists. This year's Show was held at the Hawaii Opera Plaza, October 29th through November 8th.

This year was the Hawai'i Forest Industry Association's 31st anniversary Hawaii's Woodshow and presented extraordinary heirloom-quality works crafted from Hawai'i-grown woods.

The Hawai'i Forest Institute (HFI) received a \$8,500 grant from the Hawai'i Tourism Authority's Community Enrichment Program; a \$10,000 grant from the State Foundation on Culture and the Arts; and \$1,292 from the Ron and Myra Kent Fund of the Hawai'i Community.

Other sponsors were: DLNR Division of Forestry & Wildlife, Forest Solutions, Inc., Marian Yasuda, Siglo Tonewoods, Tusher Architectural Group, Woodcraft Supply LLC, Guy Cellier, CN Renewable Resources/Honua Ola Bioenergy, Pu'uhonua Society, Akamai Glass Company, Inc, Dick Willson, Hawai'i Wood Utilization Team, Peter Simmons-In the Woods, Scheurenbrand Guitars, and Tai Lake Fine Woodworking.

Hawaii's Woodshow emphasizes the use of wood from Hawaiian-grown tree species, especially those nurtured and brought to maturity in Hawai'i. The exhibition serves as a vital reference point for the planting of native and non-native high-value hardwoods for future generations, promoting the positive role of forests in our economy and ecology.

Awards were given in multiple categories including sculpture, furniture, turning (form and with embellishment), accessories, and musical instrument.

Hawaii's Woodshow Awardees

Best In Show	Luke Shaffer ... Spark (pictured above)
Masters Awards	
Award of Excellence	Frank McClure...Tsunami
Award of Distinction	Bob Butts...CurlyKoa Hope Chest
Award of Merit	Mats Fogelvik...It'sCurly
First Place Awards	
Sculpture	Robert Duffer...Navigator's Mind: Constellation
Furniture Marian Yasuda Award	John Lund...Trestle Desk KV
Turning Form Emphasis	Jon Ogata...Hollow Form with Finial
Turning with Embellishment	John Mydock...Aloha Reef
Accessories:	Doug Gordon & Leleo Kinimaka...Na Mea Kaua
Musical Instrument:	David Gomes...Classical Guitar
Novice:	Beau Nakamori...Lyche Naguri

The Show also includes the Imagination + Inspiration Student Challenge (I+I), which was initiated in 2017 by Steven Hill, IDSA, the 3DLab Director at University of Hawai'i-Mānoa School of Architecture. The I+I Challenge encourages hands-on learning and understanding of our forest resources in high school and university-level students. This year the I+I Challenge showcased 31 entries from 29 students – 20 entering as individuals plus 5 teams in the team category.

I+I: Innovation + Imagination Student Challenge Awardees

Pu‘uhonua Awards:

Kate Kaneshiro, Stephanie Lee...Hokulea Model
Hunter Wells...Somnolent

High School Awards:

First Place Individual K.B...3-D Star Puzzle
First Place Team Kate Kaneshiro & Stephanie Lee...Hōkūle‘a Model
Honorable Mention K.W ...Table Lamp

College Awards:

First Place Hunter Wells ...Somnolent
Second Place Angelie Mae Mariano ...Becoming
Third Place Michelle Lee ... Ambient Desk Light
Fourth Place Monson Taiapa ...Maori Taiaha #122

Honorable Mention:

Demitrio Castillo ... Japanese Lantern Lamp
Monson Taiapa ... Maori Taiaha #121

A portion of this year's Hawaii's Woodshow proceeds will be donated to the Hawai‘i Community Foundation Maui Strong Fund.

See a full list of awards winning photos at: [2023 Woodshow Photos](#). For more information, please visit the website: woodshow.hawaiiiforest.org

About the [Hawai‘i Forest Institute \(HFI\)](#)

The Hawai‘i Forest Industry Association (HFIA) formed the Hawai‘i Forest Institute (HFI) as a 501(c) (3) nonprofit corporation in 2003. HFI’s mission is to promote the health and productivity of Hawaii’s forests through forest restoration, educational programs, information dissemination, strategic partnerships, and support for scientific research.