

# Kumu's News

Kumu's Cupboard Newsletter, April 2025

## The End of the School Year is Upon Us

It is hard to believe that another school year will soon come to an end. Endings provide us all with a chance to reflect on what has happened this past year.

Kumu's Cupboard has gained some new donors allowing us to expand the amount and breadth of what we can provide for the educators who shop with us. We were able to do two rounds of mini grants. This spring we gave grants to thirty-one educators for a broad range of projects and materials. The number of individual educators shopping with us grows every week. We have also gained some new volunteers broadening our prospective on serving you.

Kumu's Cupboard continues to be involved with the community helping with HLTA Charity Walk, United Way and the Chamber of Commerce. We have partnered with Sheila Bradley of Paper Pie Books, Kukui Grove Shopping Center and KIUC to give away almost \$1,500 of free books to Kauai's keiki at the "Read Across America" celebration.

Please take time to reflect on all the great things you did this year in your classes. Think about those students you helped academically, socially and emotionally. Know that the community supports your work through their contributions to Kumu's Cupboard. The work you do is invaluable.

As you think ahead to next school year, reflect also on how you wish to grow. Kumu's Cupboard is already planning for the 2025-2026 school year. We would like your input about what new materials you'd like to see in the store and if there are limits that you'd like to see increased. We also welcome new ideas. At the end of the newsletter, and also available in the store, is a short form for you to use to provide us with ideas. Please complete it and either email it to [kumuscupboard1@gmail.com](mailto:kumuscupboard1@gmail.com) or leave it in the store. We look forward to your valuable input.

Information about our extended back-to-school hours will be available in our July newsletter and on our website beginning in July.

Mahalo nui loa for all you do for your students. Have a fabulous end of the school year.

## The Auction is Coming!

Kumu's Cupboard will be holding their third annual online auction through Malama Auctions in late July.

More details will be available in the July newsletter.

We are beginning the process of collecting donations for the auction. If you are a business or individual who is able to donate to the auction, please contact Elyse Litvack:

[kumusucupboard@gmail.com](mailto:kumusucupboard@gmail.com) or 808-647-6989.

Thank you in advance.

Your support and generosity mean the world to us.



### Closures for the Remainder of the School Year:

**Holiday Weekend:**

4/18 – 4/20

**Charity Walk:**

Saturday, 5/3

**Memorial Day:**

5/23 – 5/25

**Closed for Summer:**

5/28 – late July

### Store Hours

Tuesdays: 3pm-6:30pm

Fridays: 3pm-6:30pm

Saturdays: 10am-3pm

Sundays: 1pm-4pm

*Please remember that the closing time is when our volunteers expect to leave so please arrive with plenty of time to shop before closing.*

### Back-to-School Hours

Expanded Back-to-School Hours will be available in the July newsletter and on our website in July.

### Kumu's Cupboard Contact Information

PO Box 3650

Lihue, 96766

808-647-6989

[kumuscupboard@gmail.com](mailto:kumuscupboard@gmail.com)

[www.kumuscupboard.org](http://www.kumuscupboard.org)

Kumu's Cupboard is Kauai's nonprofit that provides FREE school supplies to teachers and other educational staff.

Our store is located in Kukui Grove Center, near Target, in Lihue.

Kumu's Cupboard's space is generously provided by Kukui Grove Center.

## Spring 2025 Mini Grants

Kumu's Cupboard is excited to announce that this spring we were able to provide our shoppers with 31 mini grants at a cost of just over \$6,000.

It was so much fun to read the grants and very gratifying to fund them.

Projects included:

- A telescope
  - Materials to teach chemistry and math through baking
  - Literature sets
  - Play props
  - Small rolling white boards
  - Science projects
  - Computer extenders
  - Hands-on materials for class projects and learning
  - An adaptive reading device
  - Kindles
  - A bee keeping suit
- And more....

Here's one report of how the grants benefited students:

The Kapa'a High School Driver's Education program and its students greatly benefited from the generous support of Kumu's Cupboard. Through an engaging, hands-on project, students applied and strengthened their skills across multiple subjects—including science, math, language arts, and art—to design and build a vehicle capable of traveling at least three feet.

Thanks to the resources provided by Kumu's Cupboard, students had access to a wider variety of craft supplies and materials, sparking creativity and innovation in their designs. These enhanced resources played a key role in preparing for the Driver's Education Car Show Extravaganza, held on March 14, 2025. Students constructed their cars using recycled materials, further enriched by supplies made available through a grant from Kumu's Cupboard and the Free Supply Store. Below are some of the creative and impressive entries from the students.



**Be sure to read our newsletters for the next opportunities as we just secured funding through the Doyle Foundation to provide mini grants for the 2025-2026 school year.**



### Charity Walk 2025 – Saturday, May 3<sup>rd</sup>

Kumu's Cupboard will be closed on May 3<sup>rd</sup> so the board and volunteers can help at the HLTA Charity Walk. This event helps over

50 of Kauai's nonprofits, including us, with grants.

This is one way that Kumu's Cupboard and our shoppers, donors and supporters can give back to the community.

This year we are excited to partner with HSTA to host a keiki booth. We will have konane boards for all to enjoy as well as bookmark creating materials for the keiki. A special thank you to Rich O'Reilly for making the konane boards. An added bonus of this is that the konane boards will be added to the lending service next year.

#### YOU, yes YOU can help us as well:

- Walk on the Kumu's Cupboard team.
- Donate to our team. Even a small donation will help us reach our goal.
- Volunteer with us. Contact Elyse at: kumuscupboard1@gmail.com or 808-647-6989
- Any combination of numbers 1-3

All funds donated through Charity Walk will come back to Kumu's Cupboard as well as help us earn points towards our grant.

**To sign up to walk with us or to make a donation see the flier on the next page.**

46TH ANNUAL VISITOR INDUSTRY

# Charity Walk

2025

REGISTRATION  
AT 6AM

WALK STARTS  
AT 7AM

*Kumu's  
Cupboard*



**VIDINHA  
STADIUM**  
HOOLAKO STREET  
LIHUE, HI 96766

SATURDAY,  
**MAY 3RD,**  
**2025**

REGISTRATION AT 6AM  
WALK AT 7AM

FOR MORE INFO EMAIL: [INFO@HLTAKAUAI.ORG](mailto:INFO@HLTAKAUAI.ORG)



## Want to Make A REAL Impact for Kumu's Cupboard All from The Comfort of Your Phone? Become Our Social Media Volunteer!

Kumu's Cupboard operates *solely* with **volunteer power**. We have expanded our social media presence over the last few years to amplify our mission. Now, we are looking for the right volunteer to help our organization expand and continue to build our social community. Our social media is where we share our projects, spread information about upcoming events, give shoutouts to donors, advertise fundraising efforts, and highlight the amazing work from educators who benefit from Kumu's Cupboard. Our Social Media Volunteer currently posts to Instagram and Facebook and interacts with our followers through our professional dashboards.

You might just be our next Social Media Volunteer "Rockstar" if:

- You utilize social media regularly and understand how to use it with proficiency.
- You understand how the algorithms of social media work generally (you do not have to be a whiz, but looking at analytics you will know the best time to schedule posts to maximize exposure).
- You enjoy using your creative skills with tools like Canva.
- You believe in the work that Kumu's Cupboard is doing to support our community's educators.
- You are able to interact with commenters and people who message via our social media accounts professionally (this time commitment is very minimal).
- You are able to attend a board meeting on the 3rd Thursday of each month at 6 PM to hear all the latest news that we might want to feature on our social media.

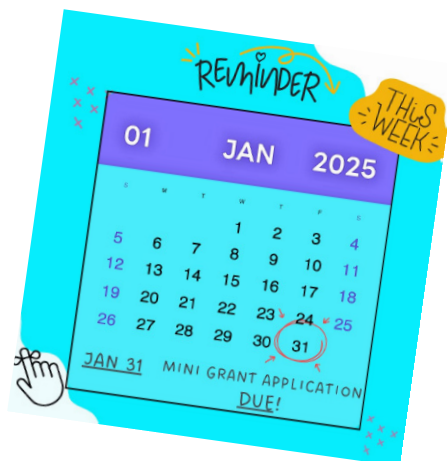
We also welcome volunteers who are working on building a social media portfolio and might like to use this as a learning opportunity.

### APPLY NOW!

Please complete this form:  
<https://forms.gle/UASgbwKh7Xf8tTdf8>



### SOME EXAMPLES OF PAST SOCIAL MEDIA POSTS



**Kumu's Cupboard**  
**Suggestions for the 2025-2026 School Year**

Please tell us what additional supplies you'd like to have available at Kumu's Cupboard.

---

---

What limits would you like to see increased next school year?

---

---

If you have a new idea, please feel free to share it with us.

---

---

---

---

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ (optional)

Please email this to [kumuscupboard1@gmail.com](mailto:kumuscupboard1@gmail.com) or leave in the store.

*Please note that a satellite location or allowing others to shop for you are not possibilities.*