

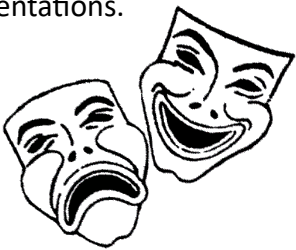
Makakū 2026: UH Hilo Student Play Festival

on-stage at the University of Hawai‘i at Hilo Performing Arts Center
Celebrate the creative vision of our student playwrights...

April 23, 24, 25

Free & Open to the Public!

It’s a long road from the page to the stage... How do we get there?
Observe student works at various points of growth on
the journey from early staged playreadings to full productions.
Q&A discussions with the student playwrights after their presentations.



Festival Schedule:

Thursday, April 23

4:00 *The Bat-Thing!* by Wainohia Peloso (staged reading, one-act play)
A group of high school students investigate mysterious disappearances and get a more than they bargained for.

Violet Marks..... Amani Pollard
Dahlia Newman..... Catherine Susen
Indy Sullivan..... Carly Gage
Marin Whatley.....Saige Rayoan
Sheriff Gibson.....Damien Stack
Deputy Cross..... Valhalla Kalvaitis

Stage Directions Reader.... Haven Rayoan

4:30 *Was it Worth It?* by Amani Pollard (staged reading, one-act play)
Two polar opposites argue over who deserves to live, and who doesn’t.

Olivia..... Wainohia Peloso
Gianna..... Sing Yi (Lexa) Torres-Chan
AI Voice..... Valhalla Kalvaitis

Stage Directions Reader.... Damien Stack

5:00 *The Play of Us*, by Damien Stack (staged reading, one-act play)
Two actors rehearsing a play discover the script eerily mirrors their own troubled relationship. When the lines blur between reality and fiction, they must decide whether to fix things - or if the play, and their love, is officially over.

Maya..... Amani Pollard
Lena..... Valhalla Kalvaitis

6:00 ***Follow the Moonlight*, written & directed by Puakea Forester (student directed one-act play)**
A 1980s midnight encounter where a shared high and a moment of stillness become the only way out of the dark.

Yleen..... Heather Causey
Nixon..... Jayden Sanoria
Bobby..... Sing Yi Torres-Chan
Transient.....Jordan Ancheta
Bar Patron..... Kyllor Strasser

(continued)



Friday, April 24

4:00 *The Royal Camp*, by Saige Rayoan (staged reading, one-act play)
At a camp for young royals, Delilah finds herself caught in the middle of a rivalry between two long-lost brothers.

Delilah..... Sing Yi Torres-Chan
AJ..... Wainohia Peloso
Prince Flynn..... Skylar Remley
Zoey..... Haven Rayoan
Prince Henry..... Autumn Davis
Guards..... Damien Stack
 Valhalla Kalvaitis
Stage Directions Reader... Angel Martinez-Parel

4:30 *Recyclables*, by Catherine Susen (staged reading, one-act play)
A soda machine experiences life and death... and rebirth.

Willow..... Wainohia Peloso
Frank..... Damien Stack
Laura..... Haven Rayoan
Soda Spirit..... Valhalla Kalvaitis
Customer/Maintenance... Saige Rayoan

Stage Directions Reader... Amani Pollard

5:00 *Gobolina*, by Valhalla Kalvaitis (staged reading, one-act play)
A princess who wants to be a goblin grapples with what it means to be alive only in a story.

Gobolina..... Percival Best
Glub..... Hanna Pempengco
Prince/Narrator..... Apollo Harris

Stage Directions Reader... Damien Stack

6:00 *Knightly Encounters*, written & directed by Hokulani Thomas (student directed one-act play)
Two young knights encounter a deadly witch in the forest, with unexpected consequences.

Rowan..... Percival Best
Elaine..... Valhalla Kalvaitis
Rowena..... Hanna Pempengco

(continued)



Saturday, April 25

- 4:00

Fangs and Feelings, by Haven Rayoan (staged reading, one-act play)

A teenaged vampire is caught in a love triangle between a superhero/villain and a human.

Rosie.....	Sing Yi Torres-Chan
Melody.....	Catherine Susen
Donte.....	Damien Stack
Charley.....	Skylar Remley
Stage Directions Reader... Saige Rayoan	
- 5:00

“Mad” in Mona, by Sing Yi Torres-Chan (staged reading, one-act play)

A psychological survival drama focused on four patients as they navigate through isolation and mental duress while stranded on the deserted Isla de Mona.

Lina Lui.....	Wai’olukeya Publico
Riker Rivera.....	Dakota Hill
Ethan Host.....	Damien Stack
Carter Jones.....	Catherine Susen
Stage Directions Reader... Abby Garthwaite	
- 6:00

‘Ānela Makapō, by Kīheipua Stack (staged reading of a full-length drama with music)

Directed by Professor Emerita Jackie Pualani Johnson

Keakalehua Playreading Hui

...writing...reading...performing...

Lanakū, a young Hawaiian composer, is caught between his dream of writing Hawaiian opera and the influences of his ancestors. These forces heavily affect his life, his relationship with his father, and, ultimately, the story and music he shapes. He struggles with his connections to those around him, including his sister ‘Elena who is developmentally challenged, and his girlfriend, Nōweo, who tries to be one of his greatest supporters.

Ilina Wai / ‘Elena.....	Tiari Faagata
Manono / Hali’a.....	Ligaya Hill
‘Eleua.....	Josh Payne
Lanakū.....	Ku’uhiapo Jeong
Ko’ele.....	Darryl Castillo
Nōweo.....	Jayden Brown
Oliwia.....	Ka’iulani Lum Ho
Stage Directions Reader... Justina ‘Ōlalmākiaikalauaki Mattos	