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## **The National Endowment of the Arts Supports the 32<sup>nd</sup> Annual Hawai'i's Woodshow Exhibition**

**‘O‘ōkala, Hawai‘i (November 7, 2024)** The Hawai‘i Forest Institute (HFI) was awarded a \$10,000 grant from the National Endowment of the Arts for the 2024 Hawaii's Woodshow, Na La‘au o Hawai‘i.

This will be the Hawai‘i Forest Industry Association’s 32<sup>nd</sup> anniversary Hawai‘i’s Woodshow, which will present extraordinary heirloom-quality works crafted by Hawai‘i’s most talented woodworkers.



*“Blanket Chest” by Alan Wilkinson 2023 Woodshow. Photo: Bard Goda.*

This year’s exhibition will be held the third week of November at the Neal S. Blaisdell Center in the Pikake Room. The exhibition will open on Sunday, November 17 at 10:00 am, with the announcement of the awards and reception from 2:00 – 5:00 pm. The exhibition runs through Sunday, November 24. Gallery hours are 10:00 am – 5:00 pm daily. Demonstrations and artist conversations will take place on November 17 and 23. The exhibition is open to the public and admission is free. The online Woodshow will run through December 1.

Artist divisions include Masters, Main, and Novice; awards are given in multiple categories including Sculpture, Furniture, Turning, Accessories, Musical Instruments, Best of Show, Hawai‘i’s Woodshow Masters, and Lā‘au Pono.

This year’s jurors will be Tai Lake, Master Furniture Designer and Maker; Travis Idol, PhD, professional forester and Professor of Tropical Forestry and Agroforestry, Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Management, University of Hawaii; and Ginger Lunt, Principal Interior Designer and founder of Tantalus Studios.

The event encourages an appreciation for the participating artists and the materials they use and promotes the positive role forests play in our economy and ecology. Hawai‘i’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 hardwood trees for future generations.

An exciting component of Hawaii's Woodshow is the [Imagination + Inspiration \(I+\) Student Challenge](#), which was initiated in 2017 by Marian Yasuda and Steven Hill, IDSA, the 3DLab Director at University of Hawai'i-Mānoa School of Architecture. The students are challenged to construct artwork using a mix of donated Hawai'i-grown woods and other materials of their choice. Schools that have participated in the student challenge include UH-Mānoa School of Architecture, Brigham Young University-Hawaii, Maui and Kalani High Schools, Mid-Pacific Owl Robotics, Olamana School and Punahou School. Wood donors have included C. Barton Potter, Kalama Hardwoods, Kamuela Hardwoods, and Siglo Tonewoods. See I+I Student Challenge Video [here](#).



*"Table Lamp" by K.W. 2023 I+I Student Challenge Honorable Mention. Photo: Brad Goda.*

2024 Hawaii's Woodshow sponsors to date are the National Endowment for the Arts, Hawai'i State Foundation on Culture and the Arts, HTA Community Enrichment Program, Ron and Myra Kent Fund of the Hawai'i Community Foundation, C. Barton Potter Co., and Peter Simmons-In the Woods. Find more information and updates about the 2024 Hawaii's Woodshow [here](#).

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.

