



## **Pacific Resiliency Fellows Program Description**

### **THE OPPORTUNITY**

Our island communities are at the frontline of risk. With limited resources, growing populations, natural disasters, sea-level rise, and other factors, we will be some of the first communities exposed to the stresses and challenges of our changing world. However, by drawing on the richness of our cultures, our history of exploration and innovation, and the promise of our young leaders, island communities are also poised to lead the way forward and provide hope and solutions for the future.

Hawai'i has served as a hub for this movement—convening the 2016 World Conservation Congress and serving as the cultural foundation for Hōkūle'a, the traditional Hawaiian sailing canoe, to circumnavigate the globe sharing the mission of Mālama Honua, to care for our Island Earth. Hawai'i also has a tremendous storehouse of natural resource data and research capacity, and Hawai'i's communities are highly invested and actively engaged in the management of their local resources.

Kupu has spent the last decade providing hands-on training programs to thousands of young adults in Hawai'i—helping them to become stewards of our culture and environment, and to develop a strong connection to the place in which we live through service.

The Pacific Resiliency Fellowship program capitalizes on the experience of Kupu and the resources of Hawai'i to equip the next generation of change-makers; to create a network of Pacific Island leaders; and to collectively learn and grow from our shared, as well as divergent, experiences. To accomplish this, we are seeking individuals with grit, experience, capacity, determination, and a will to affect positive change in their community and in our broader world.

### **PROGRAM DESCRIPTION**

Pacific Resiliency Fellows (PRF) is an international fellowship program that brings together promising future leaders who work on conservation or sustainability initiatives throughout the Pacific region. The goal of the program is to support the development of resilient communities by mentoring early to mid-career professionals to become strong leaders and empowered social entrepreneurs. The PRF Program will also give a voice to smaller communities and grow the capacity of the next generation of leaders to positively impact Island Earth.

The PRF Program will accomplish this by (1) Creating a working network of individuals addressing issues of resiliency within their communities; (2) Building capacity within emerging leaders to create a critical mass of environmental and social stewards; and (3) Providing a space for sharing of best practices and lessons learned from different communities throughout the Pacific region.



PRF is best suited to emerging leaders in the early to middle stages of their careers who have shown exceptional aptitude, character, leadership, and sense of stewardship for the earth and their communities. In year one we will connect fellows across the Pacific, including American Samoa, Guam, Hawai'i, Northern Mariana Islands, Palau, and Rapa Nui.

### **Program Design and Curriculum**

Fellows will convene in Hawai'i two times (for context setting and preparation for impact). Fellows will engage throughout the year with Kupu staff and each other on calls, blogs, and/or video conferences. The curriculum will include:

- Field-based learning
- Leadership training and development
- Action plan development and implementation
- Strategic communication design and practice
- Individualized mentorship
- Peer-to-peer network building

### **PROGRAM ELIGIBILITY**

We are seeking emerging leaders with experience in environmental stewardship, conservation, or sustainability and who have shown exceptional aptitude, character, grit, determination, and a will to affect positive change in their community and in our broader world.

Applicants should be in the early to middle stages of their career and approximately 26-40 years old, though individuals outside this age range will also be considered.

Applicants must reside in one of the following Pacific communities:

- American Samoa
- Guam
- Hawai'i
- Northern Mariana Islands
- Palau
- Rapa Nui

### **PROGRAM COST**

The cost to participate in the PRF program is \$2,500. All airfare, lodging, ground transportation, food, and any other activity costs will be covered by the program. *Scholarships may be available for those who are unable to contribute this full amount.*

### **PROGRAM DATES AND AVAILABILITY**

Participants must be available to join for the entirety of both sessions.

- Session 1: July 15-24, 2018
- Session 2: TBD



Participants are welcome to come early or extend their stay at their own cost. Session 1 has been scheduled to align with the 2018 Hawai'i Conservation Conference (July 24-26) and the 2018 National Sustainable Agriculture Education Association Conference (July 27-29), both on the island of O'ahu.

### **PROGRAM LOCATION**

All program activities are currently planned to take place on O'ahu.

### **HOW TO APPLY**

Complete the online application by following the direct link:

<https://kupuhawaii.tfaforms.net/137> or by going to our website at

<http://www.kupuhawaii.org/programs/#internship-openings>. Please answer all questions, upload your resume, and provide contact information for two references. Your references will be prompted to submit an online form. Application and all materials must be received by the deadline.

### **NEED HELP?**

Call (808) 735-1221 x 1020 or email [elia.herman@kupuhawaii.org](mailto:elia.herman@kupuhawaii.org) should you have any questions.

### **ABOUT KUPU**

Kupu is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization based in Honolulu, Hawai'i. In Hawaiian, the word kupu means "to sprout, grow, germinate, or increase." Kupu's mission is to bring life back to the people, land, and ocean while restoring the larger community for a better tomorrow. Founded in 2007, Kupu provides service-learning programs in industries like conservation, renewable energy, agriculture, and sustainability. Through these initiatives, Kupu aims to teach youth and young adults vital work skills as well as leadership, responsibility and learning to serve the community, incorporating vocational training, educational degree achievement and service learning. Kupu has successfully supported and brought partners together from across the State of Hawai'i and the broader Pacific region. The organization is currently working with over 150 partner sites that are comprised of Federal, State, and NGO entities throughout the main Hawaiian Islands, American Samoa, California, Palmyra Atoll, Johnston Atoll, and Midway Atoll.