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Hawai'i Craftsmen Events Present Opportunities for Artists and Collectors Alike

Honolulu, HI- January 15, 2008— The Hawai'i Craftsmen organization is dedicated to providing professional opportunities for Hawai'i artists and increasing public awareness and appreciation of fine craft. Having celebrated 40 years in 2007, the volunteer driven organization is preparing opportunities for artists and collectors in 2008.

"We invite internationally known artists and jurors to Hawai'i and bring together working artists, art lovers, teachers, and collectors with a shared passion," says Hawai'i Craftsmen President, Diana Tusher. "Hawai'i Craftsmen offers opportunities for established studio artists, students, and emerging artists working in Clay, Fiber, Metal, Wood, Glass and Mixed Media, throughout Hawai'i. Look for our workshops, lectures and exhibitions. Become part of our 'ohana and share our love of art!"

Coming up on March 27th, 2008 is, '**Aha Hana Lima, A Gathering of the Crafts**, which opens with free public lectures, held at Honolulu Design Center's Cupola Theatre, given by the featured guest artists in 4 different media. Julia Stratton will discuss Bronze Casting. Mark Sfirri will lecture on Innovative Wood Turning and Shaping. Kristen Morigin will share information about Unfired Clay Sculpture, and Janusz Pozniak will talk about working with Hot Glass. The guest artists will also be holding workshops for interested artists from March 28th-30th at the University of Hawaii Manoa, Department of Art and Art History. Registration is required. Please contact Hawai'i Craftsmen for more information.

Raku Ho'olaule'a, Sharing Culture, Tradition and Innovation is May 27th through June 1st and kicks off with guest artist Stephen Braun presenting a free, public slide lecture and demonstrations at the University of Hawai'i Manoa, Department of Art and Art History. Registration is required for the weekend artist workshop, being held May 30th- June 1st at Waimanalo Bay Beach Park. On May 31st, there will be a public "You Glaze/ We Fire" Community Kiln. On May 17th, there will be a Japanese Tea Bowl Workshop with the Urasenke Foundation of Hawai'i and local potter, Ed Higa at the University of Hawai'i Manoa. The event closes with the Raku Ho'olaule'a Exhibition, June 17th -July 12th, 2008 at The ARTS at Marks Garage.

Other events for 2008 include, **Fiber Hawai'i, *Crossing Boundaries*** with an exhibition and lectures from September 17th- October 11th at The ARTS at Marks Garage; the **41st Annual Statewide Juried Exhibition, *Honoring Outstanding Work*** which will run October 10th – 31st at the Linekona Arts Center, Honolulu Academy of Arts; and the **Hawai'i Craftsmen Gallery Sale, featuring work by Hawai'i Craftsmen members** in December. More information about these events will be provided as they draw closer.

Hawai'i Craftsmen is a statewide, non-profit, 501(c)3 corporation founded in 1966 to support Hawai'i artists and craftsmen and continues to fill a unique need not addressed by other art agencies, museums, or galleries in Hawai'i. We continue our founders' vision of honoring the expertise of Hawai'i craft artists with artistic and professional opportunities and public recognition.

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