Resilience & Vitality
Brazilian Cultural Art on Exhibit

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PLUS: STUDENT-TUTORS • NEW CHORUS DIRECTOR
Speeding

Sometimes, I enjoy being really fast.

I run so fast, that I miss my exit.

And before I know it -

I turn in my paper without my name.

EDITOR’S NOTE

Be in a ‘Hairy’ to Take Ownership
(that hair just may be your own)

The other evening I had the pleasure of enjoying fine dining with a beautiful woman. I’m telling you, if beauty was against the law, she would be on “Death Row.”

During the meal, a hair was spotted in my fettuccine. Aghast, quick reference was made to the hair, along with the restaurant’s cleanliness with a few carefully crafted accusations.

Upon close examination, the hair was too long to be nasal and too short to be from the head. Whichever region it migrated, the likely suspects were already found guilty and sentenced for life.

Like a New York cab, I hailed down our waiter and sternly asked to speak to the manager. Upon hearing my distasteful disposition, the manager profusely saturated us with apologies in hopes of extinguishing my fiery indignation that this one displaced hair had sparked.

One free meal and two refills later, the thought dawned on me about that rogue hair. Yes, the one that had the potential of turning a memorable moment into one to soon regret, because that hair just may have been my own.

I couldn’t undo what I did. Particularly, give back the meal and return the drinks. More incredibly, grant a full pardon to those indicted in this culinary crime. The deed was already done.

Why didn’t I just take the hair out of my food? No one would have been the wiser, nor the saving of face necessary. Surely, a housefly is considered far worse and yet how many times have I pull that piece off and kept right on eating?

I should have taken time to investigate the hair’s origin, seeing as though I had 50/50 chance of my accusations being right. But like Sweet Brown says, “Ain’t nobody got time fo’dat!”

It’s far less time-consuming to implicate others as the source of our discomfort, especially knowing what the payout will be.

Similarly, there’s a lot of perpetrating and finger-pointing in the news lately about interpersonal abuse and its grievous effects on society. How selfish acts destroys lives and how self-serving accusations births an atmosphere where lives are destroyed.

My advice is to frisk our thoughts. Search for the contraband of selfishness. If found, arrest that thought, before that thought leads to an arrest.

George F. Stowe III
Editor-In-Chief

The official election packet for candidates couldn’t be more clear:

“The purpose of the Associated Students of the University of Hawai‘i – West O‘ahu shall be to provide democratic representation for the students … and to promote student participation in education, cultural and social and community activities, with emphasis on focused student advocacy.”

According to political science research, turnout matters and helps determine how elected representatives reflect the will of the constituents. On April 9-13, students will have the opportunity to make their voices heard by casting their votes online in the ASUHW Executive Board and Senate elections.

Get involved. And vote.
Students Scramble to Adjust to TheBus’ Fare Increase

Reduced rate U-Pass offered $125 in savings for the semester

By LEO RAMIREZ JR.

Students at the University of Hawai‘i – West O‘ahu are feeling the consequences of recent fare increases and route changes by TheBus, even as the popularity of the University Bus Pass, or U-Pass, seems to be growing among UHWO riders.

As of Feb. 28, however, the U-Pass is no longer for sale, and students now must rely on the monthly pass, the day pass or even the daily fare to get to school.

In 2018, the adult fare was raised from $2.50 to $2.75, while the monthly pass increased by $10, from $60 to $70. This recent price increase has made the U-Pass more viable to purchase, although some students still report difficulties meeting the reduced U-Pass rate.

Mary Grace-Rivera, a business major, said she relied on the monthly bus passes last semester but the price increase has made it more difficult for her to purchase the bus passes.

“Financially, I can’t get one right now,” she said. “Currently, I’ve been just spending the $5.50 for a day pass every day.”

The U-Pass costs $225, a $125 savings over buying individual monthly passes for a semester. Monthly passes for the remaining three months of this semester would total $210—almost as much as the five-month U-Pass.

In recent months, TheBus has announced various changes, including stopping service last semester of the 416 route to the UHWO campus. Another shift in policy involved no longer accepting transfer tickets, which were replaced by a purchasable one-day pass.

Thomas Enomoto of Oahu Transit Services Inc. said much effort goes into determining fare increases.

“On occasion, the city reviews its fare structure to determine what is needed to properly operate the city’s bus system,” he said. “When necessary, the city submits any recommended changes or increases to the Honolulu City Council for its review and action on those matters. With council approval, the city then implements any changes to its fare structure, as with just occurred on Jan. 1.”

“The city established its U-Pass program in 2005, a reduced-fare bus pass program offered to students at various colleges and universities,” Enomoto said.

Without the student rate, the cost for a semester would be $350. Students who purchased the U-Pass see it as a blessing.

Peter Le, a creative media major, said he used the monthly pass last semester, which was then $60. This Spring, Le utilizes the U-Pass and lauds the financial savings over the full price of $350 a semester.

“It would affect me a lot,” he said. “For me, I’m from a low-income (family), so it’s just me and my mom. For me to catch the bus every weekday, that would cost a lot of money.”

HAWAIIAN HORIZONS

‘Aʻohe pau ka ʻike i ka hālau hoʻokahi

All knowledge is not learned in just one school

By YVONNE INCIONG

This is a retort that would be said when you hear someone speaking in a judgmental and/or critical manner. What you are expressing is that there is not only one way of thinking, but many perspectives based on many different sources of knowledge.

One should not limit oneself to one source of knowledge because there is so much more to learn.

In learning, you want to make sure you know all the facts from all sources to draw rational conclusions or make good decisions.

There are many ways of thinking, but when you limit your perspective to one way of thinking you become narrow-minded and judgmental.
Choral Conductor
UHWO’s new chorus director stresses music education and understanding

By LEO RAMIREZ JR.

Justin Ka’upu, the new director of the University of Hawai’i – West O’ahu Chorus, vividly recalls the feeling of leading his first musical production as a sophomore at Kamehameha School Kapālama.

“It was amazing to hear 200 voices singing,” he says. “It’s kind of like a drug, you get this big boost of happiness, and then you kind of need more.”

Ka’upu, 34, became chorus director in December and has been hosting rehearsals as part of MUS 114, which is the UHWO chorus class.

Born in Hilo, Ka’upu was the student director for his KS Kapālama class as part of a singing competition. After high school, he earned his bachelor’s at UH-Manoa. He did his student-teaching at Kapolei High School, and worked his way up to become the school’s choir director. He also teaches ukulele at Kapolei High, where he has been since 2007. Along the way he earned his master’s from Ithaca College.

“Justin not only brings a wealth of experience in choral directing, but he is also a talented arranger and dedicated to the growth of music education in our region,” says Dr. Jon Magnussen, associate professor of music.

Ka’upu says he always wanted to make music, and being choir director allows him to do that.

“As choir director, the idea is that they should know the notes and the music and communicate a little more. That’s kind of what I love to do,” he says. “But being in Hawaii, you have to give that foundation first before you can get there. So you have to be a part-time teacher, and then be a musician afterward.”

The UHWO Chorus has performances scheduled at the E Hīmeni Kākou statewide collegiate festival on March 17 and at the Kapolei Choral Festival on April 20.

Ka’upu says he intends to be heavily involved in the growth of the UHWO music program and the choir.

“It’s definitely developing,” he says of the music program, “and I want to see where else it can head too. Part of it is working with Dr. Magnussen to figure out what he wants with the program, and he has a pretty good idea on where he wants to take it.”

Ka’upu’s goal is to build the choir to the point where UHWO can have a second, a more audition-oriented choir to perform for the community.

Music education and literacy are concepts that Ka’upu values highly. He emphasizes these factors in both the Kapolei and the UHWO choirs.

“There’s singing the notes that’s on the page, and then there’s making music out of that. A lot of us spend time in singing the notes, trying to make sure they know what it is and not communicating what the idea behind the music is,” he says.

INTERESTED IN CHORUS?
For more information on joining the University Chorus, contact Prof. Jon Magnussen at jonmagnu@hawaii.edu.
Video Game Review: ‘A Hollow Doorway’

It’s Addictive Fun

By NICHOLAS KEKOAA NII

Imagine opening a doorway to your soul and discovering millions of colors, sounds, lights and turning pathways to what Earth calls a blueprint to life. Players can download “A Hollow Doorway” for free on iOS and soon on Android via Google Play, and experience some sick beats, Asia-inspired music, beautiful colors and infinite doorways as they play their way to victory.

“A Hollow Doorway” was released on Jan. 15. At first I thought this free app was going to be a complete scrap, however I am already on level seven of nine levels. This app was not at all a waste of my time. In fact, I cannot stop playing this game on my way home from school.

In this game, you play as a doorway (customizable with faces, bodies and outfits), and use your fingers to turn your “character” to follow the angle of the walls coming toward your door. If you won, that would mean that you passed 100 percent all the walls of the level. If you lost, you would hear the walls smashing (clanking sound) your door.

Players can also collect hollows based on their score. Players can collect hollow cubes from watching videos in which they would open the cubes to unlock new bodies, outfits and faces for their door. The difficulty of this game is addictive, however, it is simple and easy enough to be fair on you.

Kenny Sun is a genius for creating this game where a doorway can have outfits and bodies and faces, but his concept of this really works with the game.

About the music: Yeah, some people may hate Asian music, however, this style is relaxing for the video game, and makes it flow well together. The graphics are astounding; so much 3D, and the colors are vibrant.

I loved the idea of turning the door to match the walls to the beat of the music. It really makes the game fun, and addictive, but also difficult. This game definitely lives up to its “It’s fun” claim.

Library Notes

COLOR PRINTING

The UHWO library has announced that students and staff can now print in color. The cost for color printing is 20 cents per page; Black and white printing will remain at 10 cents per page. The new color printer is on the first floor and become IC Copier 01. The two remaining machines—IC Copier 02 on the first floor and IC Copier 03 on the second floor—will offer B&W prints only. For more information about color printing, please visit any of our service desks.

NEW EXHIBIT

“Roots of Wisdom,” which opens on March 19, explores four inspiring stories of environmental and cultural restoration. The project promotes reciprocal collaboration between science museums and native communities, including the Pacific American Foundation and Waikalua Loko Fishpond Preservation Society. The exhibit will remain at UHWO through May. More information about upcoming programming related to the exhibit will be posted to the library’s Instagram (@uhwolibrary).

BUSY APRIL

National Library Week is April 8-14 and National Preservation Week is April 22-28. The UHWO library is planning events and contests during the month.

LIBRARY SURVEY

Take the annual survey to be entered into a drawing for a gift card, which will be announced soon. More information on how to complete the survey will be announced soon.

INSTAGRAM PHOTO CONTEST

Follow the library on Instagram (@uhwolibrary) for more information on how to enter your photos. The contest rules and prize will be announced soon.

BE CREATIVE

The library will be having an arts and crafts station near the entrance.

IN CONCERT

The library will host a performance by Chamber Music Hawaii on Tuesday, April 17, at 7 p.m.. It will be Chamber Music Hawaii’s final concert on campus this semester. Featuring the Honolulu Brass Quintet, the concert’s theme is “Brass, Bach and the Renaissance,” showcasing music from the 15th century, a bit from Bach, and a contemporary work by Bruce Adolphe, the Piano Puzzler from public radio’s “Performance Today.” Tickets are free with a valid student ID.

UPCOMING CLOSURES

The library will be closed for Spring Break from Saturday, March 24, through Saturday, March 31. The library will resume regular Spring 2018 hours on Monday, April 2. Books and DVDs can be returned via the bookdrop.
The peer-tutors who work at the No'eau Center at the University of Hawai‘i – West O‘ahu’s library help fellow students improve their grade-point averages through one-on-one teaching and testing and in workshops.

According to data from UHWO’s website, there were 1,508 tutoring sessions, 819 testing sessions and 413 event attendees during the Spring 2017 semester. The website also reports that 96 percent of the polled students “agree that success within their courses increased as a result of a tutoring session.” Also, 89 percent claimed they “became more confident and knowledgeable about their assignments and areas of interest after a workshop.”

“The No’eau center is a good place to study,” said Robyn Tasaka, tutor coordinator and staff member. “Our biggest demand is writing. We also tutor statistics, business, public admin and accounting.”

Jamie Alabanza, a junior majoring in Business and Marketing, is among the 13 peer-tutors and encourages students to take advantage of the program.

“I definitely like the environment, it’s very welcoming,” she said. “Working and being here helps me as a student, it grows my writing skills. I feel like there’s a lot of opportunities when you work here. It teaches you a lot about just office job stuff that I think I can probably use later on in life after college.”

The peer-tutors are undergraduates at UHWO selected for their exceptional reading, writing, mathematics, interpersonal skills and desire to assist and learn with their peers. Tasaka said the tutors play three roles: helper, model student and a Noeau Center employee.

As a helper, they help students make progression on their academics. As a model student, they are successful learners who take the time to share tips and strategies to students who needs assistance. As an employee, they follow the Center’s guidelines to respect all students and staff.

Tasaka said the No’eau Center is in need of more students to work as peer-tutors. Students interested in becoming a peer-tutor can apply at the No’eau Center located on the second floor of the UHWO library in room 203.

“It’s a great place because I get to meet people in accounting and finance majors, and I get tips and tricks from them,” said peer-tutor Sabrina Magdato, a junior majoring in Accounting and Finance. “I like the people I work with and I made a lot of friends. Working here helps me to be more productive.”

**Wanted: Peer-tutors**

The No’eau Center, on the second floor of the UHWO library, offers tutoring for students.

No’eau Center seeks more students to serve as teachers even while they study

**By JENO TOLENTINO**

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**INTERESTED IN BECOMING A TUTOR?**

To apply, contact Robyn Tasaka in the No’eau Center (B203) at 689-2753.
Two bills were introduced to the Hawaii State Legislature this session aimed at protecting the pueo, the owl whose natural habitat on Oahu has been disrupted by urban sprawl.

Senate Bill 2078 relates to pueo research only and seeks funding for a two-year breeding ecology study and two-year foraging ecology study on the pueo on Oahu.

House Bill 2629 would require the University of Hawai'i to establish a habitat conservation preserve at the West O'ahu campus. Also, it seeks to use the land as an outdoor classroom to augment UHWO curriculum and perpetuate native culture and plants.

Pueo, listed by the state of Hawaii as an endangered species, has seen a rapid decline in numbers since the end of the 19th century. According to the proposed legislation, there are only 11 pueo living on the island of Oahu.

“We don’t have a long-term population size history to look back on and objectively say whether they are actually in decline. A lot of people have noticed them disappearing from places where they previously saw them,” said Melissa Price, a scientist with the Pueo Project, UH’s science initiative that investigates the population size, distribution and habitat use of the pueo on Oahu.

“I don’t think there’s an effort to place it on the federal endangered species list,” Price said, “but if someone wanted to try, then a lack of historical survey data could present a problem.”

Because of the owl’s cultural significance and potential ecological benefits, UH officials are working with the Department of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR) and environmental groups to continue with its planned campus development. Since 2017, they have been studying the distribution of pueo on Oahu. The results of this study will be used to model predicted distribution and abundance on Oahu, including UHWO.

The pueo has been spotted flying over UHWO property, though there have been no recent reports of finding a nest. UHWO plans to develop 183 acres for a University Village, with shops and housing.

“The protocol we have in place is just for nesting, and we refer anyone reporting on pueos in flight or hunting to the Department of Land and Natural Resources,” said Kevin Ishida, Vice Chancellor for Administration.

Ishida said he has not received any reports of pueo nest sightings on campus. The school has conducted three surveillances with the Pueo Project.

The pueo is believed to have colonized in Hawaii sometime after Polynesians.

“Learning, respecting and rejuvenating our cultural landscaping for the pueo amplifies UHWO’s principles and goals, and helps us indigenize our learning,” said Dr. Manulani Aluli Meyer, Konohiki of Kulana o Kapolei, a Hawaiian Place of Learning, at UHWO. “We are looking for trans-disciplinary approaches to cultural landscaping so wiliwili, ulu, ma‘o, niu, hala and other native trees, shrubs and grasses can become our renewed landscape a pueo of 200-plus years would recognize and thrive in.”

Although the pueo is most active during the day, seeing one is a rare occurrence. Pueo nest on the ground, making their eggs vulnerable to predation from cats, mongoose and rodents. The degradation of their habitat and vehicle collisions also have diminished their numbers. The owl inhabits forests, agricultural fields, shrublands and grasslands.

Kehau Kupihea, an anthropologist and part of UHWO’s Indigenous Education team said the Hawaiian owl is more than just the school’s mascot.

“UHWO has intentionally chosen the pueo to represent us as our mascot. But rather than objectifying the pueo as a mere symbol for an institution, we think of them as our kia‘i, our guardian, protector and our guide,” he said.
The University of Hawai‘i – West O‘ahu’s Sustainable Community Food Systems (SCFS) program and UH Hilo’s bachelor of science in tropical plant sciences and agroecology are among the top five sustainable agriculture degree programs in the nation.

According to a report by hawaii.edu/news, UHWO and UH Hilo ranked second and fourth, respectively, for delivering higher education in sustainable agriculture at an affordable price. CollegeValuesOnline.com ranked the top 20 Sustainable Agriculture Degree Programs by net price and found only one school, California State University, Stanislaus, that beat UHWO in the affordability ranking.

Students pursuing a bachelor of applied science degree at UHWO with a concentration in Sustainable Community Food Systems pay a net price of $7,820 annually, according to CollegeValuesOnline.com, which reviewed 54 U.S. colleges for affordability in sustainable agriculture and food systems programming.

“A key guiding principle at UHWO is mālama ʻāina. We value environmental responsibility that nurtures our people and our places,” UHWO Chancellor Maenette Benham said. “The SCFS program leads our effort to ensure a transdisciplinary experience for all our students but is also actively engaged in integrating the communities we serve in the process of learning, problem solving and community transformation.”

The SCFS concentration is designed to prepare students for jobs in the sustainable food and agriculture sector in the state of Hawaii and elsewhere. The program provides a multi-disciplinary, experiential and applied education for developing student comprehension of key ecological and social issues regarding agricultural and food systems.

UH Hilo “offers the unique angle of tropical plant sciences for those wishing to labor in tropical zones,” said CollegeValuesOnline.com said. “At just $10,000 annual net price, students can prepare themselves for a great diversity of careers in the tropical context, whether government or private sector.”

UH Hilo’s tropical plant science and agroecology specialty provides opportunities for students interested in tropical crop science or a plant-related field. Graduates can get a job with private enterprises or government agencies associated with conservation and environmental protection, crop production, plant pest control, plant ecology and plant and soil analyses and other farm services agribusinesses.

DE Tech Tip

“Be a quality producer.”

“Use your time effectively.”

Does that sound like something you heard in middle school? It probably was. Ultimately, your middle school teachers were right: Using your time effectively to produce quality work will benefit you.

College is less structured than middle school, which is great. However, that does mean that you have to figure out your own schedule and set aside time to manage your own workload.

There are tools to help you be productive, such as:

Cold Turkey Blocker

Cold Turkey Blocker is a tool that works with your browser to block websites that can be distracting. When you try to access that site, you’ll find a motivational quote to help you refocus. You can find more info at getcoldturkey.com.

Rescue Time

Rescue Time is a product that runs in the background of your programs to track the amount of time you spend on different tasks. You can set goals for different tasks and the system will email you weekly reports to let you know how you’ve progressed. You can learn more at rescuetime.com.

Unstuck Advice

Unstuck Advice, found at unstuck.com, can help you reset your paradigm. This site offers advice for situations where people feel stuck. This could be helpful if you are trying to find ways to motivate or overcome procrastination. Unstuck Advice offers ideas and tips that might be helpful in approaching your problem in a new way.

If you have questions about using specific tools or would like to request a tutorial, please send an email to uhwode@hawaii.edu. Additionally, you can find resources for other things related to distance learning at www.uhwo.hawaii.edu/distancelearning/student/.
Are you a feminist?

Compiled by
LOVERRA DI GIUSTINO

Are students at the University of Hawai‘i – West O‘ahu in support of equality for women—equal pay for equal work, equal opportunities for equal qualifications and equal rights and privileges?

According to Matthew Izor, a PhD candidate and feminism lecturer at UHWO: “Feminism is a multifaceted social and intellectual endeavor that aims to rid our homes, our communities, our institutions, our theories and our minds from the shackles of dominance-based, exploitative thinking and behavior which leads to a culture of violence, exclusion and hatred against women and others. Perhaps its most immediate emphasis is on the liberation of women, but it has the potential to liberate all genders, classes, and races because in unique ways we can all suffer from, and we can all perpetuate, the sort of thought and behavior based on ideas of dominance, power, and exploitation.”

The Hoot asked: “Are you a feminist?” Here are some students’ responses:

CHARLES MACARAEG
SENIOR, BUSINESS MANAGEMENT

“Yes, Feminist are equality crusaders. They fight for rights equally and not just for women.”

KATE PURLEY
JUNIOR, BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

“Yes, because feminism is about equality. Women have been second-fiddle to men for so many years, and it’s time to change that. It’s time for people to get on equal ground for everything, not just in the workforce, but men also staying at home with the kids sometimes.”

ARDENA THOMPSON
FRESHMAN, PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION WITH HEALTHCARE ADMINISTRATION

“Yes, because feminism means equality for women not just in working, but everything like politics and lifestyle. I believe everyone should be equal. For example, my mom is one of the highest management people in her company and I look up to her. Feminism is about empowering women.”

KAILA BOLTON
SENIOR, BUSINESS MANAGEMENT

“Yes, because I believe females are on equal grounds with men, especially in the workforce.”

TRACY DIXON
SENIOR, ANTHROPOLOGY

“Yes, Because I believe everyone should have their basic human rights. Everybody should have the right to make the same amount of money for the same amount of work: rights in the economics structure, the legal structure—everything should be equal. Feminism is a reaction to 5000 or more years of women living under the patriarchy. Feminism is a movement for women to assert their human rights.”

ASHTON BOVIALL
SENIOR, CRIMINAL JUSTICE

“It depends on which definition you’re giving. If you don’t do radical, just regular feminism that just means equality between everyone and pretty much everyone would be that, I would think. But if you’re talking about radical feminism, they are more inclined for hatred toward men and in that it would be no, but in the general form it would be yes.”

ROYCE OMOTO
SENIOR, CREATIVE MEDIA

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Movie Review: ‘Black Panther’

The Black Cat’s Out of the Bag

By DEJA CERUTI

There’s no way I’m the only person who walked out of Marvel’s “Black Panther” with the sole intent of purchasing the first Dashiki I saw. Long story short, this film was a refreshing switch from the standard white male-driven stories we’ve come to associate with the Marvel Cinematic Universe (MCU).

Featuring a cast and crew sporting every shade of melanin, a narrative giving prominence to female characters and the intriguing backdrop of a technological African wonderland, this contemporary film adaptation of the 1966 superhero comic was everything we didn’t recognize we needed … and then some.

Let me premise this review by saying, I knew jack squat about the comic, but I’ll jump at any opportunity that permits me to live vicariously through black actors on the big screen. So when I heard about this all-star black cast, I hit up Fandango.

In less than a week, the movie reaped 2018 box office records, raking in more than $427 million worldwide and claiming the fifth-highest opening weekend of all time, according to Rotten Tomatoes.

The story begins with the introduction of T’Challa (Chadwick Boseman), the Black Panther and successor to the throne of the afro-futuristic country of Wakanda. Most of the movie centers around his struggle to stay loyal to a history that has safeguarded Vibranium, the versatile and highly profitable Wakandan resource. This internal battle is personified in the perplexing and complicated supervillain, Erik Killmonger (Michael B. Jordan) who seeks retribution for American racial inequality.

Showcasing a unique depth from other stories in the MCU, the plotline and development of Killmonger versus T’Challa presents an interesting juxtaposition of different approaches to justice.

Under the direction of Ryan Coogler, the cast of “Black Panther” accurately characterizes the movement against structural oppression while tending to a message of unity beyond racial and physical borders.

You needn’t be a Marvel fanatic to appreciate this story, nor to understand that this movie’s success isn’t found in the costumes or the fighting sequences, but in the optimistic and redemptive spirit of equality and community.

This panther has pounced on four out of five stars.

logistical planning and physical set-up, was an exhaustive challenge, but also culturally exhilarating, said Simms.

“We’ve done quite a few other projects before, but this one is really big, this is a major exhibit,” she said. “However, to have had the executive director and founder of the African American museum at the Smithsonian in Washington, D.C., Dr. Lonnie Bunch, here while the exhibit is underway, just has me ecstatic.”

“Bandits & Heroes, Poets & Saints” is slated to continue its travels within the 50 states until 2020. The exhibit was launched in 2015 at the Charles Wright Museum of African American history in Detroit.

In staging the exhibit, student volunteers worked with various organizations in Hawaii, particularly black organizations such as Omega Psi Phi, Alpha Phi Alpha and the youth services group from the NAACP under the direction of Alfonso Braggs. Service members from the Army and the Navy also pitched in.

“It was amazing,” Simms said. “We owe these young men and the students a real debt of gratitude. They just showed up and jumped right in.”

The opening reception began with a Hawaiian Ole’ written and sung by Pu’u Zablan. The artistic atmosphere found students actively partnering in the curating process and offering information about the art.

Anthony Tyrone Amos, a Social Sciences major, was one of the student docents. “I want people to be able to look at the name of the exhibit, ‘Bandits and Heroes, Poets and Saints,’ and understand that you don’t have to be famous to be an artist,” he said.

“All this artwork, all the sculptures and poetry and everything that you’re going to see in the exhibit were made by regular people. Made by citizens, made by slaves, made by people who overcame, people with a rich history in ancestry that should be passed down. It’s not about status as it is the spirit.”

“Most people don’t know just how the African slave trade actually influenced Brazil, especially the Northeast of Brazil,” says Iggy Jenkins, a student volunteer from the UHWO Group Leaves of Opportunity. “Most people think that most slaves went to America, but actually, 5 million went to Brazil, and only .5 million came to America. That’s really important for people to understand, and how these people started off as slaves and built their own culture and mixed cultures together to make something beautiful and vibrant.”

The collection of art radiates resilience and vitality of the time where people of African descent were being clutched by the oppressive grip of slavery.

“I think we would have missed out on the actual history, who knew that Africans had such presence in the Brazilian area,” said Shawna Camar. “I think that they did a good job in making this exhibit an interactive and informative tour.”
‘Around Da Island’

The University of Hawai‘i – West O‘ahu’s Spring 2018 Community and Club Involvement Fair on Jan. 31 and Feb. 1 brought together student organizations and Kapolei-area businesses in the Courtyard. Sponsored by the Office of Student Life, the fair’s theme was “Around Island,” and students were encouraged to visit the 15 different clubs, programs and businesses that were on hand.

PHOTOS COURTESY UHWO
Throughout the celebrated Black history month of February until March 16th, the University of Hawaiʻi – West Oʻahu, along with its neighboring communities, presents the traveling exhibition of Northeastern Brazilian culture and popular art, “Bandits & Heroes, Poets & Saints.”

The National Endowment for the Humanities on the Road’s exhibit is displayed on the first two levels of the James & Abigail Campbell Library on campus.

“It’s really neat that the organizations that are involved, on the Mainland, ensures that arts are shared with the public; that’s an important piece,” said retired Judge Sandra A. Simms, president of the Hawaii chapter of The Links, a 32-year-old branch of the national organization of mostly black professional women. The Links is dedicated to projects involving the arts, education and events which raise cultural awareness within a community while facilitating educational opportunities about others.

“We need to understand the value of art, and art education in creating the whole person,” Simms says.

The exhibition sponsored by the Mid-America Arts Alliance showcases the global contributions and diasporic impact, particularly in Brazil, that ancient African culture—being blended with indigenous colonial Portuguese traditions—has made throughout its rich cultural and artistic 500-year history.

“Because our school is so multicultural, I think it’s important for everyone to know a little bit about the people that you go to school with—their history, their culture and their struggles,” said Pearlena Stone, one of two student workers at the show.

Bringing the traveling museum to UHWO, with its...