

“There is a time for everything, and a season for every activity under heaven:”



Kahaunani & mother

A Time To Be Born: Sybil Kahaunani Ahana Schoenstein was born on August 3, 1943 to George K. Ahana and Ethel K. Lovell. She is the eldest of three children. Her younger sister is Mrs. Marion Leimomi Maunakea and youngest brother is Mr. Raymond Makana Ahana. Sybil, or Aunt Nani as we call her, is the mother of Ms. Kaleinani Lesley Schoenstein and grandmother of Josephine (Josie) Schoenstein.



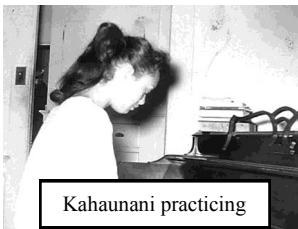
Kahaunani & father



Kahau, Raymond and Momi 1968

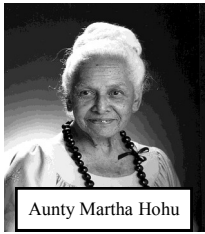


Kalei & Josie 2011



Kahaunani practicing

A Time To Plant: Since her family was steeped in music, her parents encouraged all three children to pursue their musical interests. Her family and her church were most influential in her growing up years. Aunt Martha Poepoe Hoku encouraged her to play the piano for Sunday school, worship service and Ma‘ema‘e Chapel. She also took private organ lessons from Mr. Charles Brennan at Kawaiaha‘o Church.

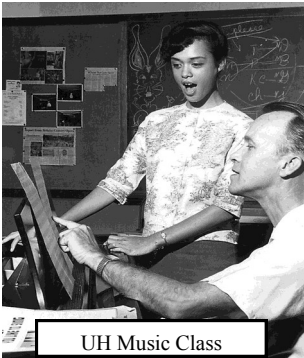


Aunt Martha Hoku

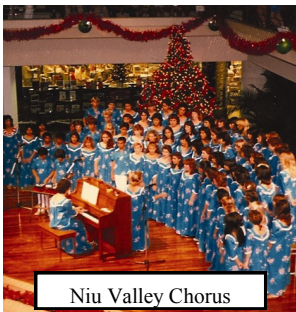


Kahaunani Senior Portrait

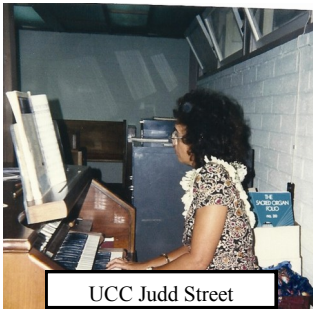
A Time To Build: In 1961, she graduated from St. Andrews Priory and then the University of Hawaii where she earned her Bachelor of Education Degree with her major in music. She taught music education and choral singing at Washington Intermediate and at Niu Valley Intermediate Schools. She was offered a job as an organist at the United Church of Christ Judd Street where she served for 17 years.



UH Music Class



Niu Valley Chorus



UCC Judd Street

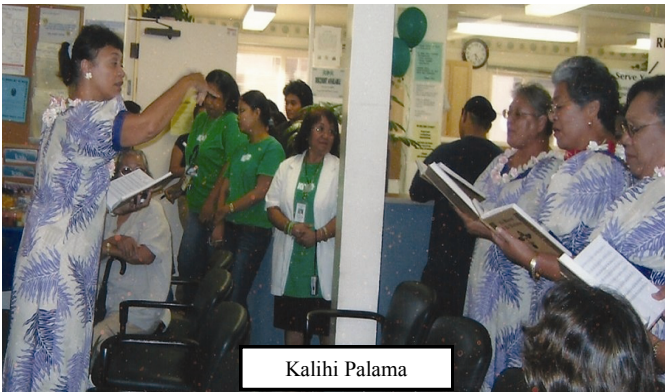


Kahaunani at organ

A Time To Embrace: In 1988, she became Kaumakapili Church’s part-time Organist and learned from a great teacher, Aunt Martha Hoku. In 1990, the church searched for a new Choir Director, since Aunt Martha was well into her 80’s. For seven years the Senior Choir, Na Lima Aloha Choir, Na Mamo Paulele Choir, The Living Rock Group as well as various individuals, families and special guests provided the anthems for the Sunday Services. On December 14, 1997, Kaumakapili Church honored Aunt Martha Hoku for over 60 years of service as Choir Director and her Senior Choir for their faithful service to their church.



Martha Hoku honored



Kalihi Palama



Kalua‘ana Church

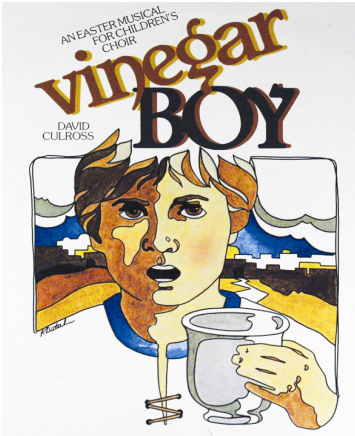


Kahikolu Church



Pukaana Congregational Church

A Time To Give: On January 4, 1998, Aunty Nani accepted the Choir Director/Organist position with Aunty Martha Poepoe Hoku’s blessings. Her focus was on Hawaiian choral music sung with musical instruments or a cappella. Although the choir would sing a variety of anthems she kept them rooted in the Hawaiian Na Himeni songs. The choir participated in many events throughout her years of service – Aha Mele’s, Kalihi Palama 30th Anniversary, Kalua‘aha Congregational Church Celebration on Moloka‘i, Kahikolu Congregational Church Celebration on Hawaii and many more. She gave special musical support to Kahu Nancietta Haalilio, Kahu of Pukaana Congregational Church in Kealia, Kona, Hawaii to help with the bringing to written notation original choral compositions by members of the Keala ‘Ohana and members of Pukaana Church.



Vinegar Boy Musical



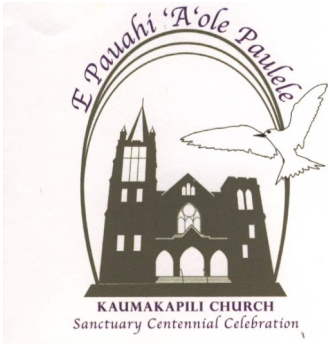
150th Celebration



Photography: David Franzen Photography

Restored Sanctuary 2004

A Time to Give: She involved the choir and church ‘ohana in several celebrations: Easter musical – Vinegar Boy, 150th Sesquicentennial Celebration, entitled Kaumakapili Sings to uplift the theme for the year “Kukala I Ka ‘Euanelio – Proclaiming The Gospel. Composed Eia Ho’i, as an introit for worship for the 160th Anniversary Celebration and E Imi E (Seek Ye First the Kingdom of God) sung as a special number, on that special Sunday, when Kaumakapili returned to worship in their newly restored sanctuary.



Choir

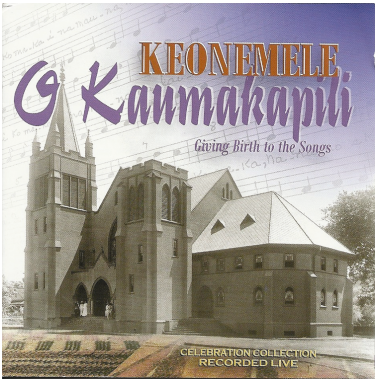
A Time to Give: Her last composition was “Ka Pohaku Paulele” for Kaumakapili Church’s 100th Anniversary Celebration of the present sanctuary at Keoneula. It was based on Matthew 7:24-27.



Kahaunani at organ
Keonemele CD



Aunty Nani & Kahu Kaupu
Posed for news article
Announcing CD.



Keonemele CD Cover



Aunty Nani and
Na Hoku Trophy 2007



Aunty Nani on back cover
of CD

A Time to Give:

She also kept her focus on keeping the tradition of Kaumakapili’s musical legacy of choral Hawaiian music. To keep this tradition from fading, she served on the committee that produced and published a CD for this purpose. The CD - Keonemele O Kaumakapili (Giving Birth to the Songs) “is the essence of Hawaiian choral and contemporary sacred music that is uniquely Kaumakapili.” This CD won the Na Hoku Hanohano Religious album of The Year Award in 2007.

A Time For Peace: On August 1, 2012, Aunty Nani announced her retirement from the Choir Director position. She would continue as the church's Organist.



Aunty Nani

**Sybil Kahaunani Ahana
Schoenstein**

Choir Director/Organist

*25 years of faithful service to the
musical legacy of Kaumakapili Church*



July 28, 2013
ALOHA KE AKUA!

A Season of Appreciation: This morning, we honor Aunty Nani for 25 years of faithful service as our Choir Director/Organist. She will be presented with lei's of aloha, a beautiful koa plaque with words expressing our appreciation for her faithful service to the musical legacy of Kaumakapili Church and bestowing upon her the honorable title of **Music Director Emeritus**.