

Nona Beamer
Highlights of her lifetime (awards, etc.)

1949 - Performed Ancient Hula at Little Carnegie Theatre, New York City, NY

1949 - First to record hula using Labanotation, a technique that provides a means of simultaneously combining precise movement with precise rhythm notation. This work was documented by the Library of Congress.

1950's - Originated first "Lü'au Show" in Waikiki at the Queen's Surf, where she was Entertainment Director

1958 - First to classify hundreds of distinct ancient hula types (the information was later destroyed in a fire; Nona is helping reconstruct the research with the help of the non-profit Hula Preservation Society)

1974 - Inducted to Hawaiian Music Hall of Fame

1979 - Awarded commendation from Aloha United Way, Volunteer Spokeswoman

1981 - Appointed to Native Hawaiian Study Commission by President Reagan

1984 - Honored by Institute for Polynesian Studies, Brigham Young University, Hawai'i

1985 - Featured in Department of Education's "Ölelo" Series of Hawaiian language videos for elementary school-age children

1986 - Featured in Cover Story on Midweek Magazine (weekly statewide publication)

1986 - Recognized Master in Hawaiian Puppetry from the State Foundation on Culture and the Arts

1986 - Received award from Hawai'i Association for the Education of Young Children

1987 - Awarded David Malo Award for Outstanding Hawaiian of the Year

1987 - Featured in Professional Song Writers of Hawai'i video "Songs That Teach"

1987 - Established "Beamer Family Scholarships" at the Kamehameha Schools, for graduating seniors pursuing studies in Hawai'iana or music

1987 - Featured in RSVP Magazine

1988 - Recognized as a Master Hula Teacher by Bernice Pauahi Bishop Museum and asked to compile "Hula 'Auana Index" for (modern hulas)

1992 - Presented with Lifetime Achievement Award at Nā Hökü Hanohano Ceremony (Hawaiian Grammy)

1992 - Honored by Hawai'i Legislature for contributions to Hawaiian music

1993 - Honored by Northern California's "Dances of the Pacific" non-profit organization for her decades of support and teaching

1993 - Featured Speaker for Queen Lili'uokalani Commemoration at Oakland Museum

1993 - Recognized Master in Hawaiian Storytelling from State Foundation on Culture & the Arts

1996 - Received Reader's Digest Award from Volcano Arts Center for Beamer Concert Series

1996 - Chosen to receive the Alfred Preis Award for Excellence in Arts Education from Hawai'i Alliance for Arts Education

1996 - Awarded Certificate of Merit from the City & County of Honolulu

1997 - Featured performer at Japan American Theater Concert in Los Angeles California

1998 - Selected as Hawaiian Culture Advisor for new Hawaiian stage production in the Maui Myth and Magic Theater

1999 - Recognized Master in Hula Ki'i (Hawaiian puppetry) from State Foundation on Culture & the Arts

2000 - Featured on National Public Radio's "All Things Considered, Morning Edition". The story went on to win a national journalism award for the producer.

2000 - Appointed to Kamehameha Schools Trustee Selection Committee, charged with finding 7 candidates for the positions of Trustee, overseeing the Kamehameha Schools large land and business holdings which in turn support the operation of the Schools

2000 - Featured Profile on Hawai'i Public Radio series "Pacific Visions" as Hula Master

2000 - Recognized Master in Hula Kahiko (Ancient Hula) from State Foundation on Culture & the Arts

2000 - First Hula Master to be recognized by the Hula Preservation Society, a non-profit organization dedicated to honoring our eldest hula masters, so their authentic voices and priceless gifts can be shared with generations to come

2001 - Recognized by Honolulu Academy of Arts with Tribute Concert, celebrating her triumphant return to the Academy after 53 years (co-organized by Hula Preservation Society)

2003 - Recognized for her lifelong contributions to Hula and Hawaiian Culture with:

- Mayor of Honolulu's Culture and Arts Award
- "Nona Beamer Day," Hawai'i House of Representatives
- Ho'okahiko Award, Duke's Restaurant
- Ke Ali'i Pauahi Service Award, Kamehameha Schools
- Lifetime Achievement, Prince Kūhiō Hawaiian Civic Club
- Resolution, Trustees, Office of Hawaiian Affairs

2004 - Honoree, recognized for a lifetime of hula contributions

- Celebration of the Arts, Ritz-Carlton, Kapalua, Maui
- Hawai'i State Senate

2005 - Honoree, recognized for contributions to community

- Nancy Corbett Award (lifetime achievement), Honolulu Theatre for Youth
- Tusitala Award (storytelling lifetime achievement), City & County of Honolulu Dept of Parks & Recreation @ Talk Story Festival