



MEDIA ADVISORY: July 24, 2006

Hawai'i International Forgiveness Day Set for August 6

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- * **Free festival: music, talk story with Makaha Sons; powerful opening from Iona Dance Theatre; keynote experience led by Dr. Fred Luskin, Kumu Ramsay Taum**
 - * **leaders of Hawai'i call for forgiveness in community, political, and religious life**
 - * **Statewide Awards: Forgiveness Heroes, Arts**
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HONOLULU: JULY 24, 2006 - The Hawai'i Forgiveness Project presents the annual Hawai'i International Forgiveness Day on Sunday, August 6, 2006 in the Parish Hall, Central Union Church, 1660 S. Beretania (Beretania and Punahou Street), Honolulu Hawai'i. Doors open at 2:00 p.m. for community exhibits, and the two-hour festival begins at 3:00 p.m. This event is for the whole family; it is free and open to the public.

Key Events: Live music and talk story with musical family, the **Makaha Sons**, honored as one of several Forgiveness Heroes. Rare video of the late Israel Kamakawiwo'ole, calling upon Hawaiians of all nations to unite. **IONA Contemporary Dance Theatre:** performance of "Passage into Tomorrow," artistic insight into nuclear destruction, on the 61st anniversary of the Hiroshima bomb. **Kumu Ramsay Taum, Dr. Fred Luskin:** Keynote speakers compare modern medical and psychological research on forgiveness with traditional Hawaiian knowledge and family techniques. Kumu Taum is a local teacher of Hawaiian arts, and Luskin is a professor at Stanford University. A shared experience of forgiveness for participants. Hosted by local teacher-authors, **Jerry Jampolsky** and **Diane Cirincione**.

Hawai'i Forgiveness Hero Recognition Awards: Nominations are now open, and the Awards are explained on the group's website; <http://www.hawaiiforgivenessproject.org/nomination-form.htm>
Forgiveness Arts Awards: Images of Forgiveness and Poetry of Forgiveness Awards; free entry at <http://www.hawaiiforgivenessproject.org/awards/>

This festival is part of International Forgiveness Day, now held in 80 countries worldwide; Honolulu's festival is one of the largest. Opening and closing oli led by Kumu Kanani Awai, one of the native Hawaiians who led the recent reclaiming of Waimea Valley, O'ahu.

The **Hawai'i Forgiveness Project** is a non-profit, non-religious, multi-cultural group helping people of Hawai'i to weave forgiveness into the fabric of their day-to-day lives. Full press release, details, photos, stories for download at <http://www.hawaiiforgivenessproject.org/press/> Speaker, interview availability through Trish Ellis, 888-222-7205; <trish@hawaiiforgivenessproject.org>