



PRESS RELEASE –

Honolulu, Hawaii – March 13, 2015 - HEIVA I HONOLULU, produced by Tahiti Nui International, is Hawaii's biggest and best Tahitian dance competition. On Saturday, March 21, 2015 the Waikiki Shell stage will be full of hundreds of soloists and premier Tahitian performance groups. This Heiva is a gathering of the best in Tahitian culture.

***** Please note important schedule change *****

Heiva i Honolulu will be on Saturday, March 21, 2015 only.

What is a heiva you ask? In Tahitian, the word Heiva (hei meaning to assemble, and va meaning community places) refers to activities, pastimes, physical exercise, and festivals. Music, dancing, singing and sporting events have always held an important place in the Polynesian community. Heiva i Honolulu, now in its 13th year, is modeled after Heiva i Tahiti, which occurs annually during the month of July and is the largest cultural event in Tahiti and French Polynesia.

From the fast hip shaking Otea movements to the powerful beating drums to the seductive rhythms of song and legends, this competition is sure to entertain. This year we are offering a free round trip ticket (from Honolulu to Papeete) to Tahiti to the overall soloist. All performing soloists are eligible and the best Tane or Vahine with the highest score wins the ticket. An array of Polynesian arts and crafts unique solely to this event, complete the festivities.

Tentative schedule:

9:00am - Main Gate Opens to the Public
10:00am - Greeting/Welcome
10:15am - Introduction of Judges
10:30am - Tamarii Exhibition Solo
10:45am - All Solo Categories
4:00pm - Solo Awards Ceremony
5:00pm - Group Presentations
6:00pm - Dinner
7:00pm - Overall Solo
8:00pm - Final Awards
9:00pm - Program End

Tickets are on sale at the Blaisdell Ticket Box Office, or two hours prior to the event start time at the Waikiki Shell Box Office. General Admission: Adult (11yrs+) \$15 Child \$10 (4-10yrs). The celebration is open to visitors and locals alike.

TAHITI NUI INTERNATIONAL is a cultural organization founded for the purposes of preserving, promoting and sharing the cultures, arts and crafts of the five groups of islands that make up French Polynesia, commonly known as Tahiti.

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