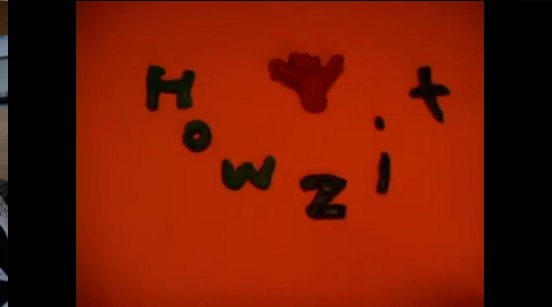


FO REEL!



T H E I N A U G U R A L PIDGIN FILM FESTIVAL

APRIL 27, 2023 THURSDAY, 5 PM

PFF DIRECTOR LETTER



FO REEL! This is the first annual film festival that showcases Pidgin, our creole language of Hawai'i, with all kine short films made by UH-system students and alumni. We started planning for this festival in order to create a platform to share the stories of Hawai'i and to celebrate the local voices of the islands. Pidgin is widely used in Hawai'i in all realms of life, where it plays a central role in families, friendships, workplaces, and more. Pidgin appears on plenny bumper stickers, on restaurant menus, on morning radio, on social media, and in everyday conversations. While this language is seen and heard in all facets of life, Pidgin is still sometimes considered to be an 'inappropriate' language to speak because of persistent negative ideologies about Pidgin that are rooted in the past. We hope that this festival invites you to reflect on how Pidgin speakers, and Pidgin, are a part of today's Hawai'i. Please stay after the films to talk story with the filmmakers and special guests, and join us for a reception outside following the Q & A.

This festival is a collaboration between The Charlene Junko Sato Center for Pidgin, Creole, and Dialect Studies and The School for Cinematic Arts at the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa. The Charlene Junko Sato Center was named for Dr. Charlene ("Charlie") Junko Sato, a professor who was internationally known for her work in second language acquisition, sociolinguistics, and pidgin and creole studies. She influenced language policy and language attitudes in Hawai'i through her publications, advocacy, and court-room appearances in support of Pidgin speakers. The Sato Center continues to support research and outreach on Pidgin and other historically marginalized languages and their speakers.



A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Christina Higgins".

Christina Higgins

*Director, Charlene J. Sato Center for Pidgin, Creole, and Dialect Studies
Professor and Chair, Department of Second Language Studies
University of Hawai'i at Mānoa*

DA SPECIAL GUESTS



Lee Tonouchi

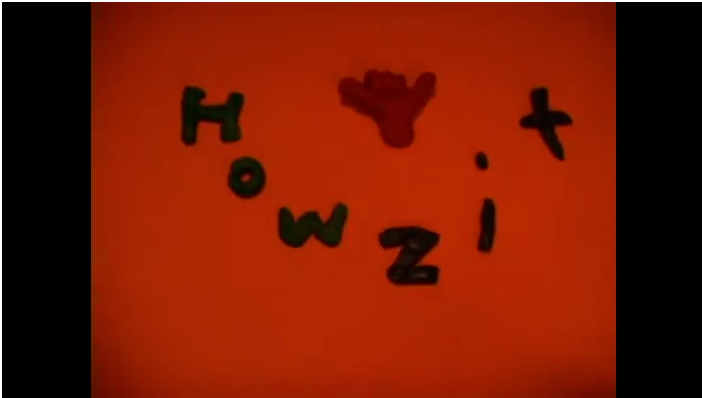
Lee A. Tonouchi stay known known as “Da Pidgin Guerrilla” for his activism in campaigning for Pidgin, aka Hawai‘i Creole, for be accepted as one legitimate language. Lee graduated from Aiea High School in 1990 and has an MA in English from the University of Hawai‘i at Mānoa. He has written numerous plays and books, and he is a contributor for the Honolulu Magazine, where he writes in Pidgin. His latest books include *Okinawan Princess: Da Legend of Hajichi Tattoos* (2019) and *Chiburu: Anthology of Hawai‘i Okinawan Literature* (2023).

Dyllon Ching

Dyllon Ching hails from the small town of Waimea on the Big Island of Hawai‘i. He graduated high-school from Hawai‘i Preparatory Academy and found himself in the digital cinema program at the University of Hawai‘i at Mānoa. Growing up in a strong Hawaiian community, Dyllon found interest in indigenous film early in his film school career. He desires for his films to join in a wave of Native Hawaiian cinema. His 2021 film, ‘Onipa‘a, was included at Māoriland Film Festival and Hawai‘i International Film Festival.



DA FILMS



Da Pidgin Toolkit, 2011

Farrington High School Digital Media Program

This claymation film teaches the meanings of Pidgin words that high school students identified as important for newcomers to learn, particularly in school settings.

Moke Action, 2009

‘Āina Paikai

When an unfortunate accident occurs, two young men are about to break into fisticuffs, but out of respect for their elder, they put aside their differences and make amends.



Our Home > Your Paradise, 2023

Audrey Yukimura

This film explores how tourism, development, and an influx of people moving to Hawai‘i has damaged Kaua‘i. Drawing on interviews with residents, the film is meant to inspire people to put back into practice the Hawaiian values of Mālama ‘Āina and Aloha ‘Āina.

DA FILMS

Na Huaka'ipō, 2023

Kaimana Broadhurst

Na Huaka'i Pō is one suspense horror film dat get dakine ideas of Hawaiian hospitality, tourism, folklore, and da tensions between locals and visitors. Da film go entertain and same time go try to plant one talkstory topic in us viewers dat maybe, or maybe not, Hawai'i stay more than just one tourist paradise lidat.



Mary Tunta to da Rescue, 2023

Elena Cabatu

This is da story af Mary Tunta who was da firs' to raise her hand when her boss asked fo' volunteers to work da vaccination haaaaalpline fo' help regista her community to get deir Carona vaccine shots. Dese are just a few stories of what happened when Mary Tunta came to da rescue in da pandemic.



'Onipa'a, 2021

Dyllon Ching

Onipa'a tells the story of Li'i, who during the pandemic finds himself the lone caretaker of a kalo (taro) farm or lo'i. Li'i must look within himself to overcome his prejudice and share his cultural legacy with a young Caucasian boy.



DA FILMMAKERS



CHARLENE JUNKO SATO CENTER

FOR PIDGIN, CREOLE, AND DIALECT STUDIES

Da Pidgin Toolkit was a collaborative project of the Charlene J. Sato Center and Farrington High School Digital Media students, under the guidance of their teacher, Christine Ho.



‘Āina Paikai is a screenwriter, producer, and director for Sundance Institute’s Native Filmmakers Lab. ‘Āina served as director for **Moke Action**.

DA FILMMAKERS



Audrey Yukimura lives on Kaua'i, where she has a photography business, Audrey May Photography LLC, and attends Kaua'i Community College. She will transfer to UH-Mānoa in the fall and major in economics, which she hopes will help guide her to advocate for a switch in Hawai'i's main source of income, away from the tourism industry. Audrey served as director for **Our Home > Your Paradise**.



Kaimana Broadhurst is a soon to be UH Mānoa alumni with a bachelor's in digital arts. He was born and raised on the islands of Hawaii with a family extending through all major islands. Kaimana's passions include skating, music, editing, freediving, and film. All the stories Kaimana chooses to tell are important to him as they are his way of doing something for his culture/heritage. He has found that film as a medium helps him in telling stories that can potentially create discourse among travelers to the islands to combat the preconceived notions that mainstream media places upon our lands. Kaimana served as director for **Na Huaka'ipō**.

DA FILMMAKERS



Elena Cabatu, a Hilo-girl, currently serves as the Director of Public Affairs for Hilo Medical Center. In spring 2020, she completed her Executive MBA in Healthcare at UH Manoa's Shidler College of Business just as COVID was headed to Hilo. Her undergraduate studies at Georgetown University included English, Linguistics and Acting. During her study of the Pidgin she grew up speaking, she found a love of Pidgin writing, producing collections of short stories and a one-woman play. Elena explored Pidgin poetry as a Georgetown Lanan Poetry Fellow at the Shakespeare Folgers Library. She also loves being Elsa's mommy! Elena served as director for **Mary Tunta to da Rescue**.



Dyllon Ching hails from the small town of Waimea on the Big Island of Hawai'i. He graduated high-school from Hawai'i Preparatory Academy and found himself in the digital cinema program at the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa. Growing up in a strong Hawaiian community, Dyllon found interest in indigenous film early in his film school career. He desires for his films to join in a wave of Native Hawaiian cinema. Dyllon served as director for **'Onipa'a**.



BIG MAHALO!

This event was made possible with funds from the Charlene Memorial Sato Fund and the Student Activity and Program Fee Board.

Beeg mahaloz to Marcus Goh for putting in choke hours fo help organize this festival. You da bestest. Plenny taenks to Scott Andrada, Anne McCarrey-Tobon, Micah Mizukami, Pualalea Slover, Treyson Quiocho, and Kristen Urada for helping out. Mahalo nui to Christine Acham at the School for the Cinematic Arts for her support.

If you like be part of next year's program, reach out to us at:

cmhiggin@hawaii.edu

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