



KĀ'ANAPALI BEACH HOTEL

HAWAII'S MOST HAWAIIAN HOTEL

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Kā'anapali Beach, Maui, Hawai'i (Feb. 7, 2012) – Visitors flying to the islands will be treated to a national 2011 Bronze Telly award-winning video about a boy, a canoe and the people who made a family's dream come true when *Ka'ililā'au's Canoe: A Journey of Spirit* becomes part of the inflight entertainment on Hawaiian Airlines' Mainland to Hawaii flights January through March.

This one-hour special produced by island TV personality Emme Tomimbang for Maui's Kā'anapali Beach Hotel tells the story of a 32-foot, four-man canoe that was built during the *Makahiki* season by Kā'anapali Beach Hotel staff as part of Po'okela, the hotel's award-winning cultural enrichment program. The 100-foot tree was donated by Kimo and Leimaile Lindsey with the simple request that the canoe be named after their oldest, now deceased child, Ka'ililā'au. The young boy wanted his father to build a canoe from a tree near their home in the valley. Unfortunately, the boy died before fulfilling his wish. Fate would bring the canoe builder, the hotel, and its 280 employees to make this Maui boy's dream come true. Under the supervision of master canoe builder, Charlie Noland, hotel employees built the single-hull traditional Hawaiian sailing vessel.

Four months later, the canoe took to the waters fronting Kā'anapali Beach Hotel for the first time with the family, accompanied by hotel staff and friends. In July 2010, the family took the boy's ashes out to sea on "Ka'ililā'au", the canoe. It is currently used as an educational vessel for hotel guests and visitors at Kā'anapali Beach Hotel.

A special DVD edition of *Ka'ililā'au's Canoe: A Journey of Spirit* will be available for sale at Kā'anapali Beach Hotel in Spring of 2012. For more information visit www.kbhmaui.com.

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