



PROGRAM SYNOPSIS

The Hawai'i Tsunami Education Curriculum Program (HITEC) is a program of the Pacific Tsunami Museum. The purpose is to improve Hawai'i student's academic and technology skills which inform them about tsunami science, climate change, and disaster preparedness with the aim to save lives and encourage local action about the impacts of global climate change. The Program is funded by a three-year grant from the U.S. Department of Education, Native Hawaiian Program. See the website: <http://discoversunamis.org>

Activities:

- Curriculum development
- Teacher training and professional development
- Field testing with students at selected schools
- On-line multimedia resource and booklets
- Preparedness consultations with schools to enhance their tsunami evacuation plans and preparedness.

Curriculum:

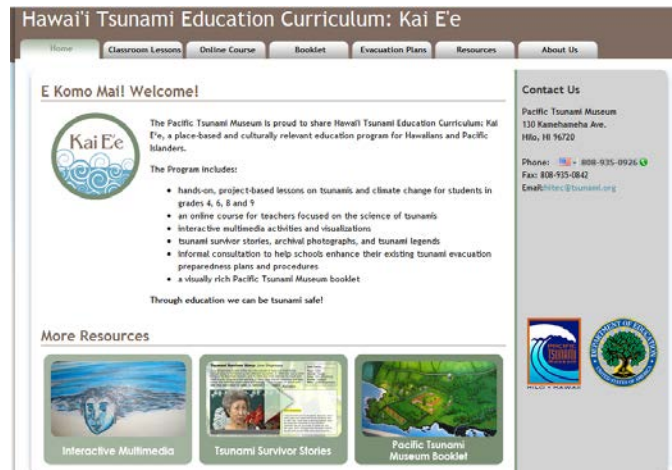
"Kai E'e – Mounting Seas: Pacific Tsunami and Climate Change," is the new place-based curriculum for grades 4, 6, 8 and 9 by the Pacific American Foundation for the Museum. The lessons are aligned to the new national common core standards for language arts, math, and the draft Science standards. The lessons are also aligned to *Nā Honua Mauli Ola*, Hawaiian Cultural Pathways for Healthy and Responsive Learning Environments. The lessons include literacy building skills and hands-on activities. Students will demonstrate their academic gains through culminating activities which inform their families, communities, and schools about being prepared for the impact of tsunamis and sea rise caused by global climate change. The final curriculum version will contain student journals and logs translated into the Hawaiian language for immersion students.

Teacher Training, Professional Development, and Field Testing:

As of June 2012, the Program has trained 32 teachers who are now field testing the lessons with their students at 12 schools on five islands, (Hawai'i, Maui, O'ahu, Moloka'i, and Kaua'i). Schools are selected with priority going to schools located in tsunami evacuation zones with high numbers of Native Hawaiian students. Teachers attend several trainings during the school year and provide critiques to improve the lessons. Teachers also participate and earn professional credits in an on-line course developed and provided by the University of Alaska Fairbanks, Geophysical Institute.

Multimedia Resources and Booklets: The University of Alaska Fairbanks, Geophysical Institute is also developing a program website that includes the lesson plans, appendices, and multimedia interactive features. The website also serves as a teacher resource clearinghouse, communication hub and portal to the online course. The website will serve as the permanent archive for the Pacific Tsunami Museum collection of Pacific tsunami survivor stories, photographs, and videos.

Tsunami Evacuation Plan Consultations: The Museum provides informal consultations to Principals and their safety committees to assist schools to enhance their existing tsunami evacuation preparedness plans and procedures in cooperation with the DOE and County Emergency Management. Schools are assisted in making their plans more robust in meeting a range of contingencies based on lessons learned around the Pacific.



Partnerships: The Pacific Tsunami Museum is working with its partners in the scientific, university, and disaster preparedness communities to critique and review instructional materials and resources to ensure scientific accuracy. The committee is led by University of Hawai'i at Hilo Professor Emeritus Walter Dudley. The HITEC Program partners includes:



The Pacific Tsunami Museum (PTM) is a private, nonprofit founded in 1994 with assistance from the University of Hawai'i at Hilo. Located in Hilo, the Museum develops exhibits, outreach programs, and archives to disseminate public education about tsunamis for the safety of people in the Pacific Region. It serves as an international center for fostering tsunami research, education, and cultural exchange, and serves as a living memorial to those who have lost their lives to tsunamis.



The Pacific American Foundation (PAF) serves PTM as a subcontractor and is a nonprofit organization dedicated to improving the lives of Pacific Americans. Established in 1993, the PAF has created a variety of culturally-based and place-based curricula and teacher trainings for public schools.



Geophysical Institute (GI), University of Alaska Fairbanks serves PTM as a subcontractor and is a leading arctic and geosciences research center. The GI has also conducted a similar project, the "Alaska Tsunami Education Program," for Alaska students.

For more information:

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Hawai'i Tsunami Education Curriculum Program



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PARTICIPATING SCHOOLS (as of Aug. 2012)

Chiefess Kapi'olani Elementary, Hilo
Connections Public Charter, Hilo
Ka Waihona o ka Na'auao, Nānākuli
Ke Ana La'ahana Public Charter, Keaukaha
Ke Kula Ni'ihau o Kekaha Learning Ctr., Kekaha
Kahakai Elementary, Kailua-Kona
Kamaile Academy Public Charter, Wai'anae
Ke Kula 'O S.M. Kamakau, LPCS, Kane'ohe
Kekaha Elementary, Kekaha
King Kamehameha III Elementary, Lahaina
Kua O Ka Lā Public Charter, Puna
Lā'ie Elementary, Lā'ie
Moloka'i High, Ho'olehua
Nānāikapono Elementary, Nānākuli
Wai'ālae Elementary, Kahala
Wai'ānae High, Wai'ānae
West Hawai'i Explorations Academy PCS, Kona

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As of August 2012