

## NEWS RELEASE

**Media Contact:**

Paul Konwiser, Hawaiian Slack Key Guitar Productions, Inc.  
Email: paul@slackkey.com Phone: 808-280-7143

**Concert, Dinner and Room Reservation Contact Numbers:**

Masters of Hawaiian Slack Key Guitar Concert Reservations, 1-888-669-3858  
Napili Kai's Sea House Restaurant Reservations, 808-669-1500  
Napili Kai Beach Resort Room Reservations, 1-800-367-5030

MASTERS OF HAWAIIAN SLACK KEY GUITAR  
CELEBRATE 5<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY WITH SPECIAL CONCERT  
ON OCTOBER 22 AT NAPILI KAI BEACH RESORT

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
(October 6, 2008)

LAHAINA, MAUI – Maui's very own Grammy award-winning Hawaiian Slack Key Guitar Productions will celebrate the 5th Anniversary of their "Masters of Hawaiian Slack Key Guitar Concert Series" with a special show on Wednesday, October 22, 2008 at 7:30 p.m in the Aloha Pavilion at Napili Kai Beach Resort, located on picturesque Napili Bay in West Maui.

This year's anniversary celebration concert, hosted by George Kahumoku, Jr., will feature Ledward Kaapana, Uncle Richard Ho`opi`i and Kevin Brown as well as talented young artists, Peter deAquino and Sterling Seaton. Tickets are on sale for \$45 per person. A kama`aina rate is available for those with Hawai`i driver licenses or identification cards. For show reservations, call 1-888-669-3858.

The slack key concert series at Napili Kai, recognized nationwide, is the home of slack key in Hawai`i. George Winston, world-renowned pop instrumental pianist as well as owner and producer of Dancing Cat Records noted that the weekly concert series is the only venue dedicated to slack key guitar in the world.

Concert-goers can enjoy a three-course “Slack Key Sunset Dinner” or light pupus and tropical cocktails prior to the show at Napili Kai Beach Resort’s Sea House Restaurant and Bar; appetizers are served on the lanai all day and dinner service begins at 5:30 p.m. Enjoy one of the most romantic seaside spots on Maui before strolling up to the pavilion for the show. To make dinner reservations, call (808) 669-1500. Special overnight “Slack Key” room rates are also available; to book a stay, call Napili Kai Reservations toll-free (800) 367-5030.

The popular series was founded in 2003 by Paul Konwiser, Wayne Wong and George Kahumoku, Jr., who developed the concept of the shows: music combined with personal stories to provide an expanded view of Hawaii’s culture and musical heritage in a dignified concert setting. George Kahumoku is the musical host of every show and features a different guest each week.

The Masters of Hawaiian Slack Key Guitar have been honored with three consecutive Grammys for their compilation CDs at the 48<sup>th</sup>, 49<sup>th</sup> and 50<sup>th</sup> Grammy Awards: ***Masters of Hawaiian Slack Key Guitar, Volume 1; Legends of Hawaiian Slack Key Guitar, Live on Maui*** and ***Treasures of Hawaiian Slack Key Guitar***. These CDs were compiled from the best recordings of each of the weekly concerts.

The fourth and most exciting CD was just released in September 2008 entitled, ***The Spirit of Hawaiian Slack Key Guitar***. It features George Kahumoku, Dennis Kamakahi, Keoki Kahumoku, Sonny Lim, Owana Salazar, Daniel Ho, Peter deAquino and Sterling Seaton. The record also includes special guests Richard Ho`opi`i, (falsetto), Bobby Ingano (lap steel guitar), Norton Buffalo (harmonica) and Herb Ohta Jr. (`ukulele).

The concerts take place every Wednesday at 7:30 p.m. at Napili Kai Beach Resort in Lahaina, Maui. In addition to CDs by the performing artists of the week and the Grammy award-winning recordings, the merchandise table offers the best slack key music selection in Hawai`i and a variety of instructional materials for guitar and `ukulele. More information, digital photos, press kit and the artist schedule for the Masters of Hawaiian Slack Key Guitar Concert Series can be found online at [slackkey.com](http://slackkey.com).

ABOUT THE MASTERS OF HAWAIIAN SLACK KEY GUITAR  
5<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY CONCERT ARTISTS

**Ledward Kaapana** has been a professional musician for over 40 years. His mastery of stringed instruments, particularly slack key guitar, and extraordinary baritone and *leo ki`eki`e* (falsetto) voice have made him a musical legend. His easy-going style and *kolohe* (rascal) charm have made him a favorite of audiences from Brussels to his birthplace on the Big Island of Hawaii.

**Uncle Richard Ho'opi'i** is one of Hawaii's most beloved singers. Best known as one half of the popular Maui duo, The Ho'opi'i Brothers, he has been practicing the traditional Hawaiian art of *leo ki`eki`e* (falsetto) for most of his life. He and his brother, Solomon (his life-long singing partner) were recipients of the prestigious National Endowment of the Arts Folk Heritage Fellowship, America's highest honor for traditional artists.

**Kevin Brown** was born on November 17, 1955, but his beautiful slack key guitar style dates back a generation or two earlier. Like most other slack key masters, Kevin learned to play from previous generations of his family. His father *Harry* is a well-known Hawaiian musician, and it was natural for Kevin and his brother *Sheldon* to learn to play ukulele, steel guitar and slack key guitar.

**George Kahumoku, Jr.** received the accolade, "Hawaii's Renaissance Man" because he still knows the old ways of farming and fishing and can survive off the land, yet every morning he works the internet, fielding international requests for his popular performances, and teaches art to students at Lahainaluna High School.